Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

The New Year Sees New Groups

'Gayand Lesbian Americans' Launched in Washington, D.C.

by Bob Roehr

Gay and Lesbian Ameri-

cans was only a few hours old and already the phone was ringing off the hook. Gay and Lesbian Ameri-cans announced its official formation as the newest naformation as the newest national group advocating for gay civil rights at a kick-off news conference on Monday, January 17. The cable television network C-SPAN began broadcasting the 45-minute event at about 10 p.m. eastern time that evening, displaying the nascent organization's 800-number. Within the hour, over 120 phone calls had registered on the 800 number. It was an impressive culmination to a busy weekend.

75 activists from 25 states attended all or part of the two-day marathon of meetings that preceded the announcement. Perhaps the most amazing thing about the

event was that so many activists — with so much individual energy, egos, (and, some might add, neuroses) — were able to survive two intense days of meetings with only a few heated exchanges and no real blow-ups.

The most contentious de-

and no real blow-ups.
The most contentious debate during the two days centered around a proposal for
fixed quotas, to ensure diversity in leadership positions.
All those attending supported
the concept of diversity, but
those arguing for reliance
upon commitment and dedication as the principle criteria. upon commitment and dedication as the principle criteria for leadership carried the vote by a very wide margin. All factions seemed pleased with the interim leadership chosen.

The group hammered out structure, priorities, and a course of action that begins immediately. In addition to

Spring scene

Oscar Wilde said that "everyone who is missing is sooner or later seen in San Francisco." The same can be said of spring, which momentarily reared its head on our favorite





Obituaries Open Forum . 6 34 Out There 48 Personals 51 Sports Wayne Friday

'National Legislative Strategy Conference' Just Bogs Down

by Bob Roehr

Boots, buttons, chains, slogan emblazoned Tshirts, and the ever-popular color black dominated the room. It was clearly a meeting of activists. A "national legislative strategy conference" to push for a cure for AIDS was how the meeting on January 22 was billed. It centered around the Barbara McClintock Project developed by a working group within ACT UP New York. The substance of the proposal had been introduced as a bill in Congress by firsterm Manhattan Representative Jerrold Nadler.

The goal was "to develop a national "battle plan" to push this project through Congress and build an effective coalition" behind it, said its organizer Luke Sissyfag. The 20-year-old AIDS activist had gained national attention in December when he interrupted President Clinton at Georgetow University Medical Center on World AIDS Day saying, "Talk is cheap, we need action." Day saying, "Talk is cheap, we need action." This was Sissyfag's at-

tempt to create action, to try to jumpstart the legislative component in the search for a cure for AIDS. He bankrolled it with \$250 of his own money — renting a room, getting coffee, sending out notices, and phoning across the country to stir up interest. Close to 50 people came, including representatives from several of the national gay and AIDS

of the national gay and AIDS organizations.
But in the end, "It was like passing a [kidney] stone," said Sissyfag. "It just degenerated into typical ACT UP whatever, totally dysfunctional."
The day long meeting didn't start out that way. It began on a very high note with Mark Milano expertly, passionate Milano expertly, passionate Milano expertly, passionate Milano expertly,

with Mark Milano expertly, passionately laying out "a brief history of how the project came to be and why we addressed the problems the way we did."

The genesis was candidate Clinton's promise to start a Manhattan Project approach to find a cure for AIDS, named for the intensive scientific effort made to create the A-bomb during WWII. Nobody had any idea what Clinton meant when he made the promise, or how it would apton meant when he made the promise, or how it would apply to research, so over the next year the working group dug into what made the wartime effort work and what they viewed as the problems with current AIDS research. They shaped it into a five-year, \$1.84 billion proposal, challenging many of the basic organizational principles and relationships under which medical research is now conducted. They named it in honor of Barbara McClintock, a research scientist (Continued on page 27)

(Continued on page 27)

Nearly \$400,000 Raised in **Under Only Roof Holiday Sales**

Under One Roof, the year-around Shop For AIDS relief located at 2362 Market Street, located at 2362 Market Street, raised \$394,000 for more than 70 AIDS groups throughout Northern California during the 1993 holiday shopping season — an increase of more than 22 percent over the \$307,000 raised during its 1992 season.

1992 season.
Since the store opened in 1990, it has raised more than \$1.25 million.

More than 100 volunteers

More than 100 volunteers are associated with the project on all levels — from product selection and develop-

ment and design to sales — who assist three full-time em-ployees and one half-time worker in operating the first retail store in the United States solely devoted to AIDS

States solely devoted to AIDS fundraising.

Overhead costs and services are completely underwritten by contributions of corporations and individuals such as Chevron, Miller Brewing Company, the Gap, and local philanthropist Jim

"Now that we are open year-around, shoppers have grown loyal to the store," said

Daniel Goldstein, president of the store's board of directors, "and the quality of our mer-chandise is improving as the retail community hears about

Other local retailers have Other local retailers have joined the store's volunteer buying committee, Goldstein says, to help the store select merchandise that will sell. In addition, Under One Roof also sells certain items, including cards and music tapes, under its own label throughout the store.

All profits from the sales

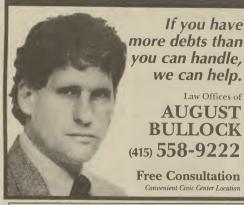
(Continued on page 2)



Green Apple and greenbacks

On January 20, John Fry (second from left) of Green Apple Books presented checks of \$5,000 each to Judy Jacobs of Hospice by the Bay (extreme left), Rick Salinas of the AIDS Emergency Fund (center), and Deborah Riggins of Lyon-Martin Clinic (extreme right). Connie Borden, also of HBTB, is standing between Salinas and Riggins. The funds were raised over about a month and a half

Bankruptcy





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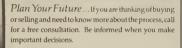
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nce 1992, over \$10,000 donated to organizations helping persons with HIV

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Community News



Rallying for reform

Hundreds of volunteers gathered January 22 on the fifth floor of the Bay View Federal Bank Bldg. for the kickoff campaign for the single payer health care ballot initiative. The signature gatherers listened to fired-up speakers before they took to the streets.(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

"Alive, Healthy, and Kickin' It" Youth Educate Youth About HIV Through Art

by Dennis Conkin

A reception will be held on Wednesday, February 2, to call attention to artwork with the theme of preventing HIV, created by at-risk youth at-tending Oakland public schools and youth programs created by at-risk youth at-tending Oakland public schools and youth programs. The reception will last from 6-8 p.m. at the Center For Vi-sual Arts, 713 Washington Street, in Oakland, but the artwork will last much

artwork will last much longer.

The art on display is the work of participants in an eight-session HIV education and prevention project, funded by AIDS Project of the East Bay and the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency. It integrates music, art, and drama with an HIV risk reduction program targeting Oakland and o Alameda County youth. other

"Sexually active youth are at high risk for contracting HIV in Alameda County and comprise one of the fastest growing AIDS populations in California," Valerie Papaya Mann, APEB executive direc-tor told the Bay Area Re-

The showcase reception will include the unveiling of the "Staying Alive Quilt," the panels for which were created by youth in the program. The quilt promotes safer sex and responsible HIV risk reduction behavior.

Other art pieces on exhibit

Other art pieces on exhibit include drawings, papier mache masks, and mixed me-

macre masks, and mixed media presentations — all with HIV prevention themes aimed at inner city youth.

Plans are in the works for posters, fliers, a mural, and a 24-month calendar for 1994-95, including risk reduction me

sages, to be placed in schools and others strategic areas, according to Mann.

Visual art, music, and dra-"Visual art, music, and drama are not exciting only to adults, but hold a special appeal to youth. This creative approach engages the young person in speaking the language of prevention in a voice that other youth will hear—and hopefully respond to by not participating in risky behavior," Mann said.

APEB provides AIDS education and prevention outreach services to more than 20,000 people annually. It pro-

20,000 people annually. It pro-20,000 people annually, it provides direct services to an estimated 800 people with AIDS and HIV infection a year. The agency was founded in 1983.

For more information about the reception contact Allen J. Napolis at (510) 834-8181.

HIVer Acquitted for Medical Pot, Then Jailed for It — What's the Deal?

SAN DIEGO - On Friday, January 21, a judge refused to set bail for an HIV-positive man he sent to prison for vio-lating probation.

lating probation.

Sam Skipper, 39, of La

Mesa, appeared in jail clothes
and unshaven before Municipal Court Judge Charles
Rogers, who gave him a 16month term a week ago.

Skipper was acquitted October 15, 1993, of cultivating

tober 15, 1993, of cultivating marijuana based on a successful "medical necessity" defense, but was jailed after he unsuccessfully tried to get probation conditions lifted from a 1991 marijuana cultivation case in which he pleadad mility.

ed guilty.
Fourteen protesters from

Sam Skipper

ACT UP and the National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws peaceably picketed the courthouse for an hour before the hearing.

Skipper's attorney, Juliana Humphrey, told Rogers she has several viable issues that might win reversal of the sen-

Deputy District Attorney
David Williams opposed a release, calling Skipper "a danger to the community" by
driving under the influence of
marijuana. He also doubted
an appeal would be won, considering Skipper pleaded
guilty in 1991.

Concluded the judge:
"Frankly, if I thought he
would prevail on appeal, I'd
let him out in a heartbeat. ...
Bail pending appeal is de-

Bail pending appeal is denied."

According to his supporters, Skinner has already been assaulted by other inmates in prison.

Under One Roof

(Continued from previous page)
are turned back over to the agencies that supply the mer-chandise—and proceeds from one Roof cards, go into a fund that helps provide "seed money" to cash-strapped AIDS agencies. The agencies then use that money to pur-chase products for retail sale at the store, according to vol-unteer coordinator Tom

Like every other retail operation, Under One Roof has had its share of hot ticket items that sell quickly and others that are less successful, Radulovich says — and like every other retail presention the

Radulovich says — and like every other retail operation, the store has had its share of shoplifters.

"We have a lower percentage of loss than other retail operations, but shoplifting does occur," Radulovich said, acknowledging that when that happens "everyone loses out."

In order to cut down on losses, the store educates vol-unteer workers about theft prevention, and it's not a ma-

jor problem, Radulovich said.

Among the popular products for sale in the store are personal care products, Tshirts, jewelry, candles, books,

snirts, jeweiry, candies, books, glassware, music tapes, and greeting cards.

Under One Roof is open from 11 a.m. 7 p.m on weekdays, from 10 a.m. 8 p.m on Saturdays, and from 11 a.m. 7 p.m. on Sundays. ▼

G.L.O.E. Says 'Bye to Durham, Seeks Lesbian Co-Coordinator

After four years of dedicated service, Pat Durham, cocoordinator of Gay Lesbian
Outreach to Elders, has announced her retirement, effective the end of February.
G.L.O.E., one of the few
agencies in the country serving lesbian and gay seniors,
provides direct services including support groups, workshops, social events, and activtive groups, along with social snops, social events, and activity groups, along with social services for homebound and isolated seniors.

Operation Concern, a multi-service agency of California Pacific Medical Center, staffs

Pacific Medical Center, staffs the program, which not only honors both the sexual orientation and age of its participants, but provides them with an opportunity to create an alternative family network with other seniors and volunteers. Housing, health, and legal referrals are also available.

According to Durham, Operation Concern is accepting applications until March 1 for the half-time position she now

the half-time position she now shares with male coordinator, George Roosen. Lesbians of color, lesbians over 55, and lesbians with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Responsibilities include planning and implementation of programs, implementation of programs, staff supervision, grant writing, recordkeeping, and reporting to funding agencies. OC is seeking applicants with knowledge and skill working with lesbian and gay seniors, cultural and ethnic diversity, and experience in social services, supervision, and fundraising fundraising.

When asked about accomplishments during her tenure, Durham told the Bay Area Reporter, "The most important thing to me is that the old lesbian community is developing. A lot of the les-bians are developing pride in both being a lesbian and being old. The community of old lesbians' has gotten a lot stronger and more visible as a result of G.L.O.E.

To further that visibility, G.L.O.E. administers the Pat Bond Memorial Old Dyke Award every two years to a Bay Area "out" lesbian, age Bay Area "out" lesbian, age 60 or older, whose contribution to the community has not been sufficiently recognized. Pat Bond, a popular Bay Area lesbian comedienne and monologist, left the award as another of her legacies to the San Francisco community after she died Christmas Eve, 1990. Three winners will be 1990. Three winners will be selected from nominations made through G.L.O.E. Honorees will be presented with checks of \$200 each on Sunday, April 24 at the awards

day, April 24 at the awards dinner.

The next G.L.O.E. event will be on Sunday, February 13, at 3 p.m., when writers in the G.L.O.E. Women's Writers Group present "Old Dyke Voices," a reading at St. Francis of Assissi Senior Housing Complex, 145 Guererro Street, San Francisco. It will be an excellent opportunity for those who would like to say goodbye to Pat before she and her lover, Magge, leave the Bay Area for a year's extended cross-country retirement tour in their new travel trailer.



Radiant glow: From left to right, G.L.O.E. staff workers Ruth Morales (social worker), George Roosen (co-coordinator) and Hal Siep (volunteer and co-chair of men's friendship group).

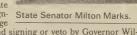
Marks To Introduce Compassionate Release Bill?

Last week, State Senator Milton Marks submitted leg-islation to the state's Joint Legislative Council that calls Legislative Council that calls for compassionate release of state inmates who are terminally ill — with a life expectancy of six months or less — and who pose no danger to society. Most such cases are expected to be prisoners with AIDS, but those with other terminal illnesses will also be affected.

Although the proposed legislation must still be given a Senate Bill number,

legislation must still be given a Senate Bill number, then returned to Marks for writing and amendments, and then sent to Senate Rules Committee for assignment to committee, passage by the state legislature, and signing or veto by Governor Wilson, the measure intends to codify compassionate release of state prisoners into state law.

The Department of Corrections currently releases prisoners



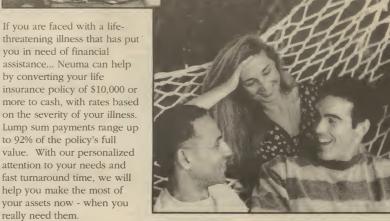
The Department of Corrections currently releases prisoners compassionate leave through an administrative re-sentence on compassion

The benefits of enacting a compassionate release measure as law would be to eliminate capricious and bureaucratic tie-ups in releasing inmates who wish to die in the care of family or friends, and to establish an orderly and swift procedure for such release after they are certified for release by medical experts.

- Dennis Conkin



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BAY AREA REPORTER JANUARY 27, 1994

Community News

Uncle Tom's Log Cabinites or Shrewd Political Operatives?

Tafel Praises Gay Republicans

Rich Tafel wouldn't partic-Rich latel wouldn't particularly want to be stuck in an elevator with either right wing homophobe Senator Jesse Helms or activist and ACT UP founder Larry Kramer, but one gets the sense that if it happened, he'd have a lot to say to either of them

have a lot to say to either of them.

Tafel, 31, executive director of the National Office of Log Cabin Republicans, a gay political lobby that opened in Washington, D.C. last October, thinks that Helms and Kramer are "two extreme voices" who don't really speak for the Republican party on the one hand or for the majority of gay and lesbian people on the other.

"They are two extreme voices that don't deal with who I am," Tafel told the Bay Area Reporter. "Jesse Helms says one thing and Larry Kramer says something else. What I'm saying is that neither speaks for me. Larry doesn't speak for us in the gay community, and Jesse Helms doesn't speak for us in the Helms doesn't speak for us in the Helms doesn't speak for us in the last of the say the say of the last of the say the say of th

doesn't speak for us in the gay community, and Jesse Helms doesn't speak for us in the Republican party."

Tafel, an ordained American Baptist minister, is so committed to his cause that he quit his job as Director of Adolescent Health Services in the administration of Massachusetts Governor William Weld last year, to devote himself to his cause of organizing self to his cause of organizing

self to his cause of organizing gay Republicans.

It's a full-time job, with two staff members, a budget of about \$250,000, and a constituency of an estimated 6,000 members of 32 Log Cabin Clubs across the country.

Tafel, who was in San Francisco as part of a fundraising circo as part of a fundraising Tafel, who was in San Francisco as part of a fundraising drive for the group, is currently making media rounds: hot on the heels of his appearance in a feature story about gay Republicans in the January issue of GQ, Tafel met with the editorial board of the Chronicle last weekend and was the subject of news articles in both daily papers.

"Gay Republicans are leading the fight within the party in the battle against the religious right, but it's very hard

gious right, but it's very hard to get coverage in the gay press. We're much more likely to get coverage in straight papers. The coverage in the gay press hasn't been nega-



 $\it GQ$ pinup boy Rich Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans, speaks to his San Francisco cohorts January 20.

tive, it's been non-existent," he told the Bay Area Reporter.

Tafel says that he knows that gay Republicans are often viewed "as an oxymoron" by liberal members of the lesby liberal members of the les-bian and gay community, par-ticularly in urban areas — and says that members of the Log Cabin Club have often been stereotyped as either "goofy and idiosyncratic" or "self-loathing homosexuals," but that those descriptions are un-fair, inaccurate, and out of date.

Counter the zealots

And, although Tafel says he adheres to traditional GOP values, such as "a stronger military defense" and the essential Republican political axiom that less government interference is better than more, he also says that antigay and theocratic values of the religious right have no part of the Republican tradition. According to Tafel, Log tion. According to Tafel, Log Cabin is trying to establish a beachhead to counter the influence of such zealots and to educate party members about gay and lesbians.

gay and lesbians.

Gay Republicans have a great deal of influence within the party — as former President George Bush learned firsthand in his 1992 defeat, Tafel said.

"Bush lost because gay conservatives and others didn't vote for him. The story wasn't that Democratic gays got Clinton elected. The story was that gay Republicans didn't vote for Bush," Tafel told the B.A.R.

The days of the anti-gay

agenda of the religious right agenda of the religious right within the party are waning, Tafel says: if Republican politicians get the message, that's great — and if they don't, they're in trouble.

"We're creating friends. If they are not our friends, we'll deal with that. We are educations are seen and making

ing people and making friends. Our secret weapon is that we are Republican but we are Republican but we are also gay people," Tafel said.

Tafel believes gays within

said.

Tafel believes gays within the Republican party were extremely influential in the elections of New Jersey Governor Christine Whitman, New York Mayor Rudolph Guiliani and Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, all Republicans—and GOP leadership around the country knows it, he says.

Tafel says that as his group continues to do grassroots organizing around the country, the numbers of out gay Republicans will grow as they find a "safe space to come out" and become politically active — or financially support Log Cabin Republicans i efforts to advance gay and leshian rights cans' efforts to advance gay and lesbian rights.

And, he said, if the closet

door exploded and every gay Republican came out of the closet, the membership of the

closet, the memoership of the group would swell.

"It would increase ten times in a day," he said, "but that's not going to happen. The mantra is that everybody ought to come out, but what do we do to help them come out?"

Start a national gay Republican political lobby, naturally. ▼

PWHIV Sues Marriott Over Contrived Firing

by Dennis Conkin

A Marriott Hotel near the San Francisco International Airport has been slapped with a \$1 million HIV discrimination lawsuit by a for-mer doorman who says he was fired nine months after

was fired nine months after he told his superiors he had HIV infection.

David Smail, 30, was an employee at the hotel for 12 years, had consistenly received excellent work evaluations, and was once nominated as the hotel's employee of the month. hotel's employee of the month, says attorney Paul Wotman,

who filed the suit.

But after Smail told a supervisor that he was HIV-positive, Wotman charges that

personnel department — and shortly after, employees be-gan asking Smail about his health and began to refuse to eat with him in the employee

cafeteria.

The suit also claims that
Smail's supervisor also made Sinial supervisor also induce derogatory comments about people with AIDS, which Smail felt were aimed at him, and that Smail was fired after two contrived incidents in September.

The suit seeks compensa-tion for lost wages and emo-tional distress, plus punitive

Discrimination against peo-ple with HIV is illegal under the California Fair Employ-



Former Marriott doorman

ment and Housing Act and the federal Americans With Disabilities Act. ▼

BACORR, WAC Give No Rest For the Wicked at S.J. 'Church'

by Angela Bocage

Sunday, January 23, an angry, rowdy group of about 100 supporters of reproductive freedom and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender liberation staged a noisy protest outside San Jose's Evangel Christian Fellowship as its Sunday morning service was about to begin. Evangel, with its high fence of forbidding black metal bars and anonymous facade that one protester called a "fortress shopping mall," is the church that played host to anti-abortion and anti-gay extremist group Operation Rescue in its bid last summer to close down South Bay clinics, and bid last summer to close down South Bay clinics, and is currently the meeting site for anti-abortion strike teams that gather weekly at the church, prior to forays against clinics and their physicians'

homes.

The Women's Action
Coalition (WAC) and queerfriendly clinic defenders Bay
Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights (BACORR)
chose Evangel for their commemoration of the 21st anniversary of the Roe v. Wade
decision that legalized abortion, because of the role the
church plays in planning and church plays in planning and financially supporting the threats to clients and health workers at clinics, according to BACORR's Laura Weide. BACORR contends that in BACORR contends that in part because anti-choice extremists consider their actions above the law anyway, no law will do what direct actions can to send the message that their tactics against clinics won't be tolerated.

Weide asserts, "What goes on in that church isn't an innocent religious service, not when it's plotting attacks. They have absolutely no right to call for the deaths of queers and the deaths of physicians."

Operation Rescue leaders,

Operation Rescue leaders, Operation Rescue leaders, in keeping with the philosophy of christian Reconstructionism promoted by Evangel pastor Emanuele Canistracci, have called for death for gays, people who provide or undergo abortions, and other acts deemed "treason to the family." Pro-choice supporters feared that such rhetoric would inflame unstable abortion foes to take it upon themselves to carry out the senselves to carry out the sentences, and their fears were realized last year by the murder of Dr. David Gunn outside one of the low-income clinics he served in Pensacola, Florida.

Although no arrests were

made at the boisterous protest, one pro-choice wom-an was injured when a church security guard — or "pastor's representative" as his name tag read — attempted to rip a coat hanger out of her hand. coat hanger out of her hand. The coat hangers had been labeled by protesters "not a surgical instrument," and the labels were set aflame during the demonstration to symbolic

the demonstration to symbolize the way anti-abortionists' strategic violence turns such distinctions to ashes.

Some witnesses place the woman's assailant among a group of men from the church who also attacked a mock "Street Clinic" WAC women organized. As the women donned medical garb and took up speculums and

other props to role-play accessible, informative, sex-positive health care, the men struck, ripping the "Women's Street Clinic" signs and anything else they could seize.

"It was as though they couldn't stand to see a woman's clinic operating peacefully, even as theater," marveled Sue Kuyper of WAC.

"When you enter that church building, you're con-fronted with a wall of antifronted with a wall of anti-abortion propaganda. Each person is given a card to sign pledging what he or she is go-ing to do in the next week to stop abortion, before they re-turn to church. What do the cards say, bomb a clinic, kill a doctor, intimidate a 15-year-old? The hate rhetoric in that place is at fever pitch," added BACORR's Tom Burghart, the researcher who uncovered the link between Evangel's the link between Evangel's pastor, Emanuele Canistracci, and white supremacist Barry Byrd, who networks with Canistracci in a Reconstructionist organization called the National Coordinating Council.

In anticipation of BA-CORR and WAC's visit, Evangel had put out a press release claiming to be "peacefully ... assisting the commu-nity's needs" when mysteri-ously persecuted by proously persecuted by pro-choicers and queers seething with "rabid contempt" and seeking to "purge the commu-nity of it's [sic] historic faiths." The release alluded to the Hamilton Square demonstra-tion against Lou Sheldon, and promised to pray for "those who persecute and curse [us]." But Evangel's neighbors have a very different impression of the compound's community role. Many looked on curiously as care ran a gauntlet of ly as cars ran a gauntlet of protesters to enter the park-

One young woman, Stephanie Vickari, told the Bay Area Reporter that she herself had been forced to run another gauntlet, escorted through a screaming mob in front of the clinic where she receives health services. "I'm going to school and working, and I don't have benefits, but that clinic helps, they accommodate my needs. They really are a help for teenage women and low-income women. I wasn't even there that day for an abortion, but it was none of their business what I was there for. That's not Christianity; who are they to make a moral decision for

Vickari, who was raised a Roman Catholic, learned Sunday morning that Evangel fellowship may have been behind that very protest. "I never knew these things about it, but I always could tell it was different, that this place was dreary. My dog doesn't even want to come over to this side of the street on a walk!"

Across the street, a neigh-

of the street on a walk!"
Across the street, a neighbor wearing a jaunty pink
"Pride" cap offered protesters
lemonade. She told the
B.A.R. her name was Gina,
and her girlfriend's was Georgia, happily admitting, "That
church doesn't know it has

lesbian moms right in its front yard!" The couple, with an 11-year-old boy and two teenage girls, were incensed "when that church brought "when that church brought Operation Rescue to our community, and we had barricades right up to our door, and the church never warned us, never apologized to the neighbors." But the presence of clinic defenders protesting the church's activities sparked discussion in the family, Gina said "It woke us up Seeing said. "It woke us up. Seeing these people come here and take a stand for something we

take a stand for something we took for granted, we had strong views about — then we had to go set an example, too, and we began going out to defend the clinics with our 16-year-old daughter."

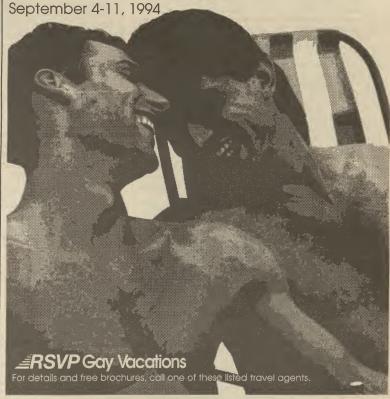
No Evangel or Operation Rescue representative was willing to comment on the situation for the B.A.R.; instead, keeping with the O.R. tradition of harassment of queer press, this reporter was repeatedly threatened with arrest. A "pastor's representarest. A "pastor's representa-tive" who grabbed a protester by the breast and shoved her aside was treated with more aside was treated with more understanding the woman repeatedly tried and failed to obtain any police cooperation in making a citizen's arrest. A young man who identified himself as William Benson, "a queer from San Fran-



Turning the tables: On January 23, the 21st anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, WAC and BACORR held a rally in San Jose outside the Evangel Christian Fellowship to give Operation Rescue a taste of their own medicine.

cisco," seemed to share the concerns of many protesters when he said, "I know the issues for me are tied together, that the same people who want to control women and limit them want to control me and limit my freedom, and the same people who think women are expendable, al-though 'babies' aren't, consid-er queers expendable ... obli-gatorily expendable." BACORR and WAC left Evangel with promises to re-turn.

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Bob Ross, Publisher Mike Salinas, News Editor Chris Culwell, Arts/Entertainment Editor

Michael M. Yamashita, General Manager David McBrayer, Classified Advertising

Executive-Editorial Office 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 861-5019, 861-7230



Death to P.C. Clones

(Warning: This has nothing to do with computers.)

Such a week: the resolutions — such as they are — of the Lorena Bobbitt and Michael Jackson cases have prompted even more barroom discussions about right and wrong than jokes. Opinions throughout the Bay Area seem to be divided, with Bobbitt the subject of particular debate. She has now been compared to everyone from Ellie Nessler on up and down; Jackson has fewer supporters, as far as we can tell, but no shortage of people who say they are willing to share his bed for the same few million bucks offered the youngster in question.

tion. We like the raucousness of the analyses, since the events are still so fresh in the collective consciousness they have no universally accepted "Politically Correct" angle yet. "P.C" (as the concept is called, now that it appears to be an inescapable fixture of modern life for a while) is downright antipathetic to debate, what with this theory is that everybody should agree, so there should be no reason to wrangle. Right? Wrong.

Before the onslaught of P.C. there was "Q.A.," or "Question Authority," which is a concept we vastly preferred — and still do. Unfortunately, like so many other slogans we liked in the "70s, it has become conspicuous by its absence from the philosophy of the very Woodstock generation that coined it. If it hasn't been one damn thing killing it — the fundies, for instance — it's another: P.C. clones.

Not that the philosophies considered "correct" are bad.

Not that the philosophies considered "correct" are bad. What is bad is the muzzling of discussion, and what's worse is the effect it has on our ongoing pursuit of civil rights. We mention this because we recently overheard someone state that the more P.C. people there are out there, the more effectively bigots can be battled. We know that sounds good in theory, but we must disagree.

but we must disagree.

Unfortunately, a lot of the people who preach the dogma of

Unfortunately, a lot of the people who preach the dogma of political correctness only know the surface of its tenets. By not having arrived at those philosophies themselves, after the (formerly) traditional pattern of listening, discussing, contemplating, and deciding, far too many are left with only the shell of an ethical standard, rather than any deeply felt convictions. And when called upon to defend their opinions, sometimes in very important battles, they face their opponents unarmed. The playing field, as life is sometimes called in metaphor, is decidedly tilted toward white men. We know this, and deeply regret that so many potentially great leaders never came to the fore because of cultural bias. That said, we would find it no less tragic to also lose the leadership of the next potential Harvey Milk because that person happens to be male and white, if that were the case. And, in fact, that may be the case all too often these days: a recent meeting of the people or and write, If that were the case. And, in fact, that may be the case all too often these days: a recent meeting of the people organizing that Stonewall commemoration left one Minnesota white male furious that his policy vote was "weighted down" and therefore did not equal the votes of women and people of color. "If feel I don't count," he said. And he was right, and that was wrong.

was wrong.

Okay, disagree with us. But disagree forcefully. State your case and make your point. Convince us (and others) with the weight of argument, and not allegiance to some mythic doctrine. If you can't convince those of us in the community, you're going to have a hell of a time doing it to the fundies.

We — not just at the B.A.R., but most of the people we know in the community, as well — deplore the attempts of fundies to homogenize the opinions of their followers. We rightly call it thought control, without most of us realizing how we do it ourselves. And although we may agree with the positions being put forth, we don't agree that everyone must agree.

sitions being put forth, we don't agree that everyone must agree.

When everyone is free to make a case for an opinion without worrying so much if it is "correct," and when disagreement is no longer heretical, we may start communicating better. By which we mean, both within the lesbian and gay community and with those from outside it. Let the force of reason and persuasion be what stimulates your brain into forming your credo.

Don't let the fundies tell you what to believe, and don't depend upon your friends, either. Yes, it's a hard thing to make one's own mind up. That playing field is rocky (even for white guys): as we said, it's life. And life was not meant to be easy. But whenever it gets too hard, some mass debating always helps. helps.
Try some today.



Guest Opinion

New Leadership Coordination Meeting Forming

Since the time

of Harvey Milk we have rested on our laurels

and assumed

we can maintain our freedoms without any real effort.''

by Cliff Anchor*

The recent confrontations by fundamentalist fanatics, led by Lou Sheldon, make it painfully obvious that we in the gay/les-bian/bi community lack a fully coordinated leadership. This is also ap-

parent in other parts of the nation, where civil rights measures have gone down to defeat or have been re-

scinded. It is not that our community lacks quality leaders. It is just that we, since the time of Harvey Milk, have rested on our laurels and assumed that we can maintain our freedoms without any real effort. Well, the maintenance of freedom is

a full-time concern (or should be) and has to be an integral part of

our emancipation.

We need not just leaders, but leaders who can communicate effectively with the press, with government, and with members of the public who do not know us bers of the public who do not know us—
other than by the propaganda of the religious extremists who hate us and who
seek to destroy us. We can never attain
our full freedom without the goodwill and
support of those in the mainstream of society who understand our struggle and
what it is about.

We are calling a meeting of community

leaders, people just like you who are known and respected for community work and for championing civil rights. Not all of us are gay and lesbian. Civil rights is a matter of concern to all segments of soci-

ety. All people of goodwill are welcome.

We are hoping to hold the gathering in San Francisco soon, to map out a unified strategy to counter the at-tack on our community by the extremist Fundies.

Our community as a whole consists of diverse splinter groups, which causes division, causes our energy to dissipate and become gy to dissipate and become ineffective, and causes the community as a whole to be weakened. Or it can be a great source of strength, if

that's how it's used.
Please contact us at (707) 865-2623 if you are willing to build a local Leadership Coalition. We need you. We know you care about your Community and we know

*Also signed by:
Reverend Freda Smith, M.C.C.
John DeSalvio Joe Bannon Lynn Strawbridge Chuck Schoen Mike Salinas Marilyn Chuck Phil Adams

Jim Provenzano

Darlene/PhotoGraphics ine Cleland, Rick Gerharter Judi Parks Angela Bocage John Sieruta

> Linda Kilduff David C. Hetherly

Thomas E. Horn, Esq. Chas Wesdell

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Dianne Aaronson, Rene M. Astudillo,
Noreen C. Barnes, Erin Blackwell,
John Blanco, Kate Bornstein,
Michael C. Botkin, Nancy Boutiller,
Philip Campbell, Dennis Conkin,
Jim Coughenour, M.R. Covino,
Tim Farrell, Michael Flanagan,
Mark Freeman, Roberto Friedman,
Loralie Frohman,
Anthony N. Hauser, Eric Hellman,
Chad Jones, John F. Karr,
Jeffery Kennedy, I.A. Kisselman,
Karl Bruce Knapper, Ron Lazar,
Elliott Linwood, Jason Lorber,
Mara Math, Mr. Marcus,
Jerry Metzker,
Karen Ocamb, Orland Outland,
Deborah Peifer, Rachel Pepper,
Jim Provenzano, Jeremy Quittner,
Mary Richards, John Ross,
Doug Seto, Marv. Shaw,
Rick Thoman, Paul Thomason,
Dick Walters, Lauren Ward,
POLITICAL EDITOR

POLITICAL EDITOR

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Letters

Who's Progressive?

I'm sure Supervisor Leal (B.A.R. Letters, Jan. 6) would like to redefine the word "progressive" in San Francisco politics and count herself in that number when it suits her purposes. The facts do not support Ms. Leal's assertions. Traditionally, in San Francisco, progressive groups have included the lesbian/gay Democratic clubs, some ethnic Democratic clubs, the SF Bay Guardian and SF Weekly newspapers, the Sierra Club and others. All of these groups have supported rent control on vacant apartments. Ms. Leal

does not.

Of all these groups, not one has supported Mayor Jordan's inhumane and costly attack on the poor and homeless called "Matrix." Supervisor Leal has voted to support and continue the program. All of these groups opposed Mayor Jordan's supposed "welfare reforms" known as Prop. V in the last election. Supervisor Leal took no public position on the issue.

Upon appointment by Mayor Jordan to the Board, Leal stated in the San Francisco Chronicle that Jordan did not require a lovalty oath but that he would

Leal stated in the San Francisco Chronice that joi-dan did not require a loyalty oath but that he would get it from her on most issues because their politics were similar, though she might be "slightly" more liberal on some issues. This is far from "progressive." Mayor Jordan replaced Roberta Achtenberg with Susan Leal and Doris Ward with Anne Marie Conroy.

Almost all board observers have commented that with

Almost all board observers have commented that with these two replacements, Mayor Jordan ended the progressive majority and created a board more in his image and definitely friendlier toward his politics. Mayor Jordan and Susan Leal would love for progressive members of the lesbian/gay community to vote for her solely on the basis of her sexual orientation. Sadly, as gay Republicans, Clarence Thomas and countless others have shown us, just being gay or lesbian or any minority for that matter, does not automatically insure progressive voting patterns.

Let us not allow Mayor Jordan to select our next leader. Yes, Ms. Leal spoke up against Rev. Lumpkin (as did almost every member of the Board) and did not support a toothless resolution on immigration. Mayor Jordan can tolerate those votes as long as he has her vote on Matrix, vacancy control and her vote opposition on increase in high superiess exacts seemed to the ining an increase in big business taxes equal to the increases in MUNI fares and services we have incurred. Make no mistake, the nayor has those votes from Ms.

Dennis Seely

No Misuse of Shanti Funds

I want to point out a factual error in your article, "Audit Is Good News, Bad News for Shanti" (B.A.R., Jan. 6) reporting that Shanti Project has been cleared of allegations that it misappropriated city funds. One paragraph stated that Dr. Mitchell Katz, director of the SF AIDS Office, told your reporter that his office was still not sure how much of the funds Shantice was still not sure how much of the funds Shantice was still not sure how much of the funds Shantice was still not sure how much of the funds Shanting as well as the sure of t

ti owes the city as a result of the improper accounting procedures were spent on personnel and administrative costs. I don't believe the paraphrased comment by Dr. Katz is accurate, because it is simp

The Coopers & Lybrand FY 1992 audit showed that, of Shanti's total expenses of more than \$4 million, \$1,024,788 (or 25.1 percent) were for administration. Additionally, \$631,788 (or 15.5 percent) were fundraising costs. Besides appearing in the audit submit-ted to the AIDS Office, those figures were contained in the information package distributed to media dur-ing and after Shanti's Jan. 4 news conference on the

I assume your reporter had asked Dr. Katz whether the audits provided a breakdown of salaries versus other administration costs. It is correct that such a breakdown was not included. Your reporter may have asked that question in order to address contentions among segments of the community that Shanti used city funds to create "a second tier of management." That did not occur. I wish to reiterate that there was no misuse of Shanti funds, including those provided by the city. All charges, including those for salaries and other administrative costs, were made to provide services to our clients.

Gloria Sandoval, Executive Director Shanti Project, San Francisco

Rev-isions

Why do you use the word reverent to refer to church employees? Many of them are homophobes, oppressors and pedophiles — certainly not ones to be revered! Your Jan. 6, 1994 issue quoted a UPI story of a Reverend Manning accused of molesting a child!! I propose that all religious officials be labeled preachers. Preachers would be more accurate and could be abbreviated "Pr."

Jerome Murphy, M.D.

Ed. Note: This has been a considerable source of some discussion here at the B.A.R., and we appreciate reader input on this subject.

Privates Invading Privacy

The following letter was sent to the Provost Marshall, Military Police, The Presidio, Bldg. 36, The Presidio, San Francisco, CA

This is a complaint. On Saturday, Jan. 15, 1994 at ap-In is a complaint. On Saturday, Jan. 15, 1994 at approximately 4:00 p.m. on a trip through the Presidio returning from Baker Beach, myself and four other gay men were stopped by the military police and harassed. We were told we had too many people in the back of our early model Volkswagen Bug. We had three people in the back seat.

We explained that the car was not made with three seat balts and how would you expect us to faster in

seat belts and how would you expect us to fasten in a third passenger? They said: "Use a bungee cord" and told us this was

just a warning. The driver was questioned about his contact lenses and then they escorted us off the military base.

As a taxpayer who owns property in San Francisco, I resent this harassment of myself and my friends simply because we are gay. I suggest the U.S. Army personnel at the Presidio implement a diversity program and spend their time on people who actually break the law. San Francisco is not a city for bigotry.

Gary L. Rhodes San Francisco

Ed. Note: The B.A.R. is working on stories dealing with the Presidio. Any lesbian or gay civilians who have received similar, or worse, treatment should call our offices. Ask for Jim Provenzano.

Something About Love

In response to Scott Rosenberg's review of Philadelphia in the San Francisco Examiner, I am one viewer that was pleased with the film, especially after the tepid reviews in the local press. I, for one, am glad that Mr. Demme and the producers were careful and conscious in the choices they made, because the sub-ject matter is so loaded. Many of the opinions express-ed by the characters played by Denzel Washington and ason Robards accurately portray attitudes prevalent in this country. They are the attitudes I was raised with as a child and have had to fight to overcome these past twenty-two years. Mr. Rosenberg implies we of the "artist" or "with-it" community should be above trying to reach these "backward states and states of mind," but I think it is urgent and desperately important that we do.

mind," but I think it is urgent and desperately important that we do.

The words "politically correct" are too often used to dismiss the need to look at the truth, or a hard reality, and I think Mr. Rosenberg is hiding behind this rhetoric. What's wrong with showing women with AIDS, African American men who are gay, gay men who love children, or families who support their loved ones with AIDS? They exist in countless numbers. What's wrong with creating a movie that is going to bring a lot of tears to eyes and lumps to throats? I thought that's what movies are all about, and this one did just that for me and many others in the audience. did just that for me and many others in the audience. Philadelphia is very emotional in spite of its "ideological tightropes." Mr. Rosenberg's talk about "ideological tightropes." Mr. Rosenberg's talk about the lack of "structure, dynamics and credibility is not only inaccurate but avoids the point, which is quite apparent for anyone willing to look at and feel what this movie is about. For me the most poignant scene is when Joe Miller, Mr. Washington's character, is coaching Andrew for his testimony the next day. The Callas aria begins, and Andrew has something to share that is so much deeper than any answer he can possibly give. And yes, Mr. Rosenberg, he is "trying to explain something about love. Joe Miller and I understood. I'm sorry for you that you didn't.

Charlie Hinton San Francisco

Word Windows

I was happy that the 1994 American Heritage Dictionary and Webster's have updated their editions. I was also surprised to see recently that the American Psychiatric Association has recognized the impact of

For those who haven't seen the definition:

For those who haven't seen the definition:
"Gnotagonic — I. The physical, emotional, social,
mental and spiritual suffering caused by AIDS or the
loss anticipated by it. 2. The devastating effect of a
lethal sexually transmitted disease. 3. The sum of all
the parts associated with the medical enigma.

Synonyms grotesque, agony, chronic. This noun and both adjectives are applied to conditions or situations to indicate degrees of significance."

From the American Psychiatric Association: "Chronic Ongoing Multiple Traumatic Stress Disorder: A condition unique to AIDS and unprecedented in modern psychotherapy. Characterized by the overwhelming loss in a semment of the ed by the overwhelming loss in a segment of the population."

These two developments show that there really is

sensitivity to AIDS issues and that the mainstream is understanding the situation. Obviously, we are learning the horror of something we have never known before.

> Richard Benny San Francisco



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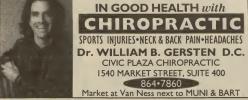
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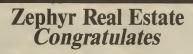
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Letters

The Last Word On Bianchi (Hopefully)

I would like to clarify remarks of mine included in Brandon Judell's review of Tom Bianchi's latest book ("Fluff" n' Stuff," B.A.R., Dec.16) that Michael Denmeny criticized in his defense of Tom Bianchi's work (B.A.R., Dec. 30). Even though I find Denneny's response overheated, it is the more painful because I respect him both as a person and for his singular con-

tribution to gay literary life.

My objection to Bianchi's work is not its being "geared toward a gay audience" — for which no artist or writer should be ashamed or apologize — but that it manipulates that audience through a narrow representation of gay male life that is superficial but seductive. Do these pictures tell us something authen-tic and personal about the photographer's feelings or about the world he examines, or are they in fact a generic representation of a certain gay male fantasy of privelege in which everyone is tan, beautiful, and built? In short, when they engage our libido — which is a pleasure — do they also make us think? I prefer pictures that do both.

I don't believe Bianchi's pictures reveal much per-onal feeling or complexity, but I do think they are calculated to attract the attention of a gay male viewer who, one would imagine, had been sated by pictures of beefcake frolic at the beach in male calendar photography and gay videos. Apparently not. Now that is not a crime. I understand perfectly well how enjoyable it is to look at pictures of great-looking men. But as someone who has looked at a lot of homoerotic photography, I don't have to endorse as a contribution to the genre the latest example — however skilled or well crafted — of a kind of image that tells me and other gay men something we know all too well, in photography and in life, about the gay version of luxe, calme, et volupte. (Pardon my French. But if I'm going to be accused of being "sniffily arrogant" and, heavensl, an "academic," then I ought to play my part to the hilt.)

Of course, as Denneny reminds us, gay fiction writers also direct their work specifically toward a gay audience. But I am sure he as an editor applies a high standard when he chooses to take on a gay male fiction project and would look with a jaundiced eye on a manuscript that only tells us what we want to hear or what we already know. I am doing in photography

the same when I declare Bianchi's pictures wanting.
In what felt like a casual coversation with Brandon
Judell — though one meant for attribution — I grant Judell—though one meant for attribution—a grain that I did misspeak. In discussing the impact of Bianchi's work on me, I did not intend to suggest in any way that Bianchi's skills as a photographer rate with those of the amateur. It is evident that this is the work of a professional at his craft. I just don't think his pictures automatically apply as art, homoerotic or

Question Catholic Charity

I have often disagreed with much of the tenor and content of your HIV/AIDS issues columnist, Mr.

content of your HIVAIDS issues columnist, wir. Botkin; however, I can only say appropriately enough "amen" to his insightful critique of Catholic Charities' takeover of Shanti Project's housing program.

Besides the very valid issues he mentioned in his article, I can also cite a myriad of other concerns involved in this nearly clandestine deal the Department of Public Health made with Catholic Charities. When of runner rearth made with catholic characters. When this arrangement was being announced, I asked to no avail, that the Office of AIDS respond to questions regarding Catholic Charities' past personnel practices, issues raised about the professional experience and reportedly murky background of Catholic Charities' CEO, and their seeming reluctance to deal with safe was incuted insulption program residents.

sex issues involving program residents.

Even though I prefaced my questions with a statement favorably noting their good intentions and some past efforts in AIDS work, one of the Catholic past etforts in AIDS work, one of the Cattolic Charities' key staffers involved in the takeover project sternly demanded of me as to how I could question their charity toward people with AIDS. I responded that we are clients eligible for benefits, not victims dependent on charity and furthermore Catholic Charities would receive considerable public funding to overate this "charity".

funding to operate this "charity."

All of this comes back to the inherent problems of a service provider governed by a belief system which a service provider governed by a benie system which inds the majority of the clients of a program they manage "intrinsically inclined to moral evil." I have been told that at a past meeting of their Board of Directors, it was suggested that much of their AIDS-related work involved activities at odds with church teachings and should therefore be abandoned. Management's response to this point was to call attention to the fact. that AIDS work was their most "profitable" activity and that they could not afford to give it up. Obvious-ly, for the time being, dollars speak louder than papal

> Rick Pacurer, Member Joint Task Force on the HIV Epidemic San Francisco

Post It

I am a gay postal employee working in the San Francisco division. Sometime ago, there appeared in this paper a letter from the Gay Employee Network of the Minneapolis Division. Gay and lesbian employees there have formed a fellowship with a vision to "eliminate homophobia and discrimination againt all sexual orientation minorities of the U.S. Postal Service." This is an admirable and courageous movement by our brothers and sisters in Minneapolis. It takes guts to be out in the work place of the post office, even here in San Francisco.

guts to be out in the work place of the postonice, even-here in San Francisco.

I am curious to know if a need exists for a similar network here in San Francisco, the Bay Area, and perhaps even all of Northern California. I have found support networks in other areas of my life. This area is a rich and supportive environment. However, I is a rich and supportive environment. However, I would most certainly welcome a support network of fellow postal people and friends. At least I think I would, whether it be in the form of a social network or fellowship or union with a statement of purpose, as is taking place in Minneapolis. Did you know that in this year's Minneapolis gay parade our brothers and sisters there will march once again, perhaps even with a postal vehicle, approved by the Postmaster?

I say, "Let's do it." Let's get together for some brainstorming; to see whether or not we would like to network outside the work environment. Contact

to network outside the work environment. Contact Jeff, PO Box 280202, San Francisco, CA 94128-0202.

Jeff San Francisco

Another Heart Lost in San Francisco

It is often said that experience is the fabric which It is often said that experience is the fabric which molds a man's existence. As I approach the waning days of my year as Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather, I would be remiss in not mentioning what a profound effect the friendship of San Francisco's leather community has had on my life. The outpouring of love, concern and support that has always been extended to me provided my "safe haven" from the many rigors life as a title holder can/must face. You have treated me as one of your own and for that, I will be eternally grateful.

To call your city a second home and you, my adopted family, would be an understatement. From the beginning I was both blessed and intrigued with a group of "relatives" that includes the likes of Vern Stewart, Marcus Hernandez, Mitch Johnson, Lenny Broberg, Ms. "Blair" and Emerson Briney. With a family like that looking over your shoulder, how could you not

It is so very difficult to mention everyone in San Francisco who has had an impact on my year, yet it is this collective friendship that has continuously provided me strength and support. I only wish I could channel these attributes and caring throughout the mainstream community; our world would be a much

better place.

And finally, I want to reiterate my undying gratitude And imany, I want to reterate my undying gratitude to all of you, my friends, my family—for the part you have played in making my year complete and satisfying. Although I am physically 3,000 miles away, I have always left my heart in your wonderful "City By The Bay." I hope I have made you proud.

Frank Nowicki Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 1993 Washington, D.C.

Paranoia Strikes Deep Into Our Ads It Doth Creep

I am getting sick of seeing the American Voice Mail ad in the B.A.R. The ad shows two typical gay men face to face, flirting. We read one of the man's thoughts about the other man: "... what if he turns out to be a total psycho like that other guy? As soon as he had my home number, it was like Fatal Attraction II: The

Homo From Hell.

I have spent the last 10 years of my professional life trying to lower the amount of fear among men. I have trained over half of the certified masseurs who advertise in B.A.R. This ad creates an atmosphere of fear. And guess what? Fear sells! The ad seems to say that And guess what rear sells! I he ad seems to say that "When I talk to a man face to face, I can't trust my perceptions, his words, my heart, his eyes, my intuition. He might be a 'homo from hell,' a 'psycho' killer (Fatal Attraction)." Yes, the gay press wants non-gay advertising, but do we want non-gay companies creating paranoia among us in order to sell their products?

I called American Voice Mail in Los Angeles with a request that they stop using the ad. A courteous supervisor informed me that "the owners have told me that the advertising firm handles all complaints." I called their ad company, AKA Communications and almost got by the switchboard. "Kevin will call you

The sad reality is that fear sells. So what if a few queers are upset? This campaign is making money for American Voice Mail. I urge B.A.R. readers who are insulted by this company's ads not to do business with them. I urge B.A.R. not to carry American Voice Mail ads or any company's ads that promote paranoia in our population.

Joseph Kramer San Francisco

TRAYEL TIME, One Hallidie Plaza, Suite 406, San Francisco, CA 94102

Will the GOP Get 'Even More in '94?'

espite the fact that President Bill Clin-President Bill Clinton's personal performance ratings have hit near all-time highs for a first-year president, a growing number of political forecasters (including some Democratic ones) are predicting that 1994 could be a big political year for the Republican Party. The GOPs, meeting in Washington last week to crow over their recent string of victories (two Democratic governors and three string of victories (two Democratic governors and three big-city mayors were replaced by Republicans last year), were predicting that their party's "glee in '93" would be followed by "even more in '94," and there weren't a lot of major Democrats willing to disagree with them.

In fact to hear GOP na-

In fact, to hear GOP national chair Haley Barbour tell it, President Clinton's rookie year in the White House was "the biggest boon to the Republicans since the 1975 election of Jimmy Cor. 1976 election of Jimmy Car-ter." Laying much of the GOP's successes last year squarely on Clinton's door-step, Barbour boasted to his fellow GOP National Committee members last week that "Clinton's [tax-and-spend] that "Clinton's [tax-and-spend] proposals remind people of what they like most about the Republicans," while quickly dismissing the latest polls showing the president with widening job approval ratings as Clinton's temporarily profiting from an "improving economy and an ability to dominate media coverage while Congress is in recess."

dominate media coverage while Congress is in recess."
Calling Clinton's young tenure the "Elmer Gantry presidency," the GOP boss conceded that Clinton is "a tremendous performer" but predicted that endless Clinton feithers will entire the control of the control predicted that endless Clinton failures will quickly become apparent to voters and the GOP will be the beneficiary in the November '94 off-year

elections.
Will Clinton be sufficiently able to cash in on his personal popularity (providing that it stays in the high numbers) to help carry Democratic senate and congressional candidates to victory in November? The

Commentary

White House political opera-tives are clearly counting on the president to lead his party's nominees to at least hold-ing the congressional majority ing the congressional majority they now enjoy, but more and more D.Cers are beginning to say they agree with Barbour — that despite Clinton's personal popularity, the GOP stands to gain big in states where Democrats currently hold the most House seats. All 435 House seats and 34 Senate seats (a majority of them currently held by Democrats) are up for election in November. Thirty-six governorships will also be on the line, and Republicans are thought to be making gains in

thought to be making gains in the statehouse races as well. Can Republicans take enough Can Republicans take enough current Democratic-held seats to win a majority in either the House or the Senate? Not likely, but Bill Clinton — who won passage of his economics bill last year with the tie-breaking vote of the vice president and came very close to losing other key votes desnite. losing other key votes despite

a solid Democratic majority—cannot afford to let the Republicans take too many of these seats if the final two years of his first term are going to be fruitful ones.

Fortunately, one state where the Democratic Party looks to be in good shape is California. Despite our massive fires, earthquakes and/or droughts, California seems to be on the rebound, and no be on the rebound, and no one appreciates the impor-tance of that more than Bill Clinton. The president has made a total of nine trips to California since taking office cantorna since taking office a year ago, and not all of them were to show concern over the state's continuing calamities. With the largest number of electoral votes in the country, this state looms large in Bill Clinton's re-election also and be in a large in ball in a large in the country. tion plan, and he is looking to Democrats like Dianne Fein-

stein to help carry the state again when he runs in 1996.

A big win for California Democrats this November would go a long way toward keeping the state in the Clinter and the state in the c keeping the state in the Clinton column two years from now, and Feinstein appears to be the key here. Polls released last week show the senator with at least a 2-to-1 lead over any possible GOP opponent. The White House hopes that Feinstein's huge popularity edge will help either Kathleen Brown or John Garamendi into the governor's office, Gray Davis into the office of lieutenant governor, Arlo Smith replace the conservative incumbent attorney general, and Democrats ney general, and Democrats pick up at least two or three currently Republican-held

what do I see happening in November? Well, Dianne Feinstein will win big, taking the Demo state party slate to victory with her. In '96, Bill Clinton will win another term (anything shorts of a total press.) Clinton will win another term (anything short of a total presidential catastrophe should keep him in the White House). And our crystal ball forecasts a Gore-Feinstein national ticket in 2000. Hell, it sounds good to me.

Politics and people

Politics and people

In Sacramento they are quietly saying that, while he is understandably concerned over whether or not his November opponent is either Kathleen Brown or John Garamendi, Governor Pete Wilson's worst political nightmare would be for ex-Representative William Dannemeyer to win the GOP nomination to oppose Dianne Feinstein. The last thing Wilson and his campaign operatives want is to have the homophobic, bigoted ultra right-wing bic, bigoted ultra right-wing Bill Dannemeyer on their ticket. As one GOP campaign person in Sacramento put it last week, "We have enough problems with Feinstein at the top of their ticket. We certainly don't need the Dannemeyer name hanging like a rope around the necks of our slate."

Good news for Arlo Smith? Some close to his only possible primary opponent for attorney general, Demo-cratic Assemblyman Tom Umberg of Orange County, are quietly saying that the February 9 filing date will show the young assemblyman deciding to run for re-election news for



Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi.

to his "safe" Assembly seat in-stead of challenging the bet-ter-known Smith.

Rich Tafel, the Washing-ton-based national director of

the mostly gay Log Cabin Republicans (32 such GOP clubs around the nation), was in town last week, and all who met him say he is "just what the gay Republicans need to make coverts" But why did make converts." But why did those coordinating his trip here only get around to asking the gay press for coverage after contacting the straight,

mainstream press?
One local gossip sheet has
Chronicle columnists Matier
& Ross breaking up "as Mati-& Ross breaking up "as Mati-er heads for a career in televi-sion." I hope it doesn't hap-pen, but from what I've seen, Phil Matier would be a natu-ral as a television newsper-son/commentator. He's one of the few political columnists around that you can believe or trust.

Look for Sacramento to raise the state sales tax a quarter percent to deal with the extensive damage caused by last week's earthquake. Speaker Willie Brown thinks it's the best idea, and what Willie thinks usually becomes law in California.

Willie thinks usually becomes law in California.

San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer, a favorite of the gay and lesbian community in that city, will easily be reelected mayor this year.

Indianapolis wants us; Seattle doesn't: When the New York-based Out & About newsletter mailed requests to tourist offices in quests to tourist offices in some 50 American cities recently, asking for info on gay/lesbian travel, Indianapolis reportedly sent back the warmest response, with a lot of helpful advice for prospective gay and lesbian tourists. Seattle, on the other hand, mailed back the request attached to a telephone number of a Seattle counseling service. quests to tourist offices in

When Tom Hanks took the prestigious Golden Globe award Saturday as best dramatic actor for his role as a gay man with AIDS in the movie Philadelphia, he accepted the award with thanks to his co-workers and to two

gay advisors now dead from the disease. Hanks, who took the role only after a number of other big-name straight stars shied away from it, re-ceived a standing ovation from the overflow crowd, and there was hardly a dry eye in the place.

the place.
Toklas Lesbian/Gay Demo Club chairperson Matthew Rothschild is now a lawyer in the office of City Attorney Louise Renne.

And how was your week? ▼

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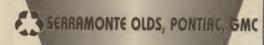
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BAY AREA REPORTER JANUARY 27, 1994

Dykeotomy

We Are Everywhere ... But Some Places More Than Others

by Nancy Boutilier

e are everywhere, or so the bumper sticker tells me And while I know it's true that lesbians skip, strut, stroll, and move along in all walks of life, I also

in all Walks of life, I also know that we are in some places more than others.

When I lived in a suburb north of Boston, I used to make a late-evening, 40-minute drive to the Star Market (pronounced "Staaa North" as the Corphidad". ket (pronounced "Staaa Maaaket") on the Cambridge/ Watertown line just so that I watertown line just so that I could commune with the dyke couples out shopping. Supermarkets seem to offer easy, friendly dyke spotting. Each aisle seemed to announce lesbian visibility, perhaps because people who shop for groceries together generally share a refrigerator

generally share a reingerator at the very least and, more often than not, a bed.

Of course, San Francisco's Marina Safeway has long been reputed as a singles' scene not to be missed though I must confess I've never been there. Besides, my

Commentary

focus is not on a singles' scene so much as on a sense of a broader community — those reminders that we are

not alone.

And if a girl has to go grocery shopping, and most girls do, the Good Life Grocery in Bernal Heights is a terrific replacement for my Star Market back East. If you are in the market to see that we are, indeed, some places more than others, all I can say is get your shopping list out and head for the hills.

With the help of some of

head for the hills.

With the help of some of my favorite women-looking-at-and-loving-women, I have prepared a list of some of the lesbian-filled spots that do not appear in the queer guides to the Bay Area.

appear in the queer guides to the Bay Area.
So, putting the more well-known lesbian venues aside for the time being, here's the First Annual Dykeotomy Demo Geography of Off the Path Lesbian Hangouts. This list is certainly not meant to be complete. Mention here does not suggest that I know the sexual orientation of proprietors, staff, or other cussexual orientation of propri-etors, staff, or other cus-tomers. What I do intend is to offer a few suggestions for those who enjoy feeling that they are in the company of other lesbians.

Please, please, feel free to tip me off to other such places in the Bay Area.

Laundry lesbos

Next to grocery stores, laundromats are probably one of the more comfortable places to spot dykes. Star Wash ("Staaa Waaash?") on Dolores won out in the girlwatching category when I took an unscientific poll among friends.

If you have a dog, or if you find yourself pet sitting, many of the local parks make for friendly dykes-with-dogs bonding. My canine compan-ion and I enjoy the women (men and dogs, too) of Col-lingwood Park. But best of when it comes to walking your dog where the women



"I suppose any reference to ripeness might be a bit forward."

are, is Point Isabel in El Cerrito. In fact, this park is so dyke-filled that it may be worth borrowing a friend's

worth borrowing a friend's dog for the afternoon just to hang out with the gals.

Don't forget to pay homage to Harvey Milk wherever you walk your dog. Since Milk helped put the "pooper scooper" law on our city's books, clean up for your pup with pride.

More often than not.

pup with pride.

More often than not,
Ocean Beach is where you
may well meet out-of-town lesbians, particularly those visiting from abroad. I've never walked the length out to

er walked the length out to Fort Funston without collecting a few of those lesbian greetings that make me glad to be a dyke.

If you find the notion of a walk on the beach too reminiscent of lesbian classified ads, try Rockaway Beach in Pacifica, where our surfing sisters go to hang ten. I have enough trouble hanging up the phone, so that one comes to you from my sources. If to you from my sources. If you get there and feel lonely, well hop back on Highway 1

> "Anywhere people are working for change in Central America. you'll find plenty of dykes."

and set your sights on Santa

Cruz.

In the world of retail, some of the stores that have offered wonderful sister spirit include the Target in Colma's Serramonte shopping plaza, The Body Shop in the Marina, SOMA's Bed and Bath Superstree and of course any destore, and of course, any de-partment at Macy's. Don't overlook the Chanel counter

overlook the Chanel counter or the security guards.

The big computer trade shows like the recent Mac-World Exposition boast a healthy, if wonderfully nerdy (and I went, so I include myself in that category) lesbian contingent browsing the aisles to see what's new in cy-

Moving away from tech-nology and consumerism, con-sider the world of non-profits. sider the world of non-profits. "Anywhere people are working for change in Central America, you'll find plenty of dykes," one friend reminded me, as another echoed, "Yeah — peace and justice stuff:"

"Hospitals," still another said. "You want to find lesbians — look at health care workers and people in social services."

Dykes who sweat

Of course, weekend mornings in Golden Gate Park are filled with dykes who sweat. Between the soccer matches, the flag football games, the runners and bikers, you'll find enough lesbians to take over the state of Colorado.

One sporting event not to be missed — and you missed it last Friday night — is the Stanford-Cal women's basketball game. Last week it was Stanford at Cal, and it was a dykefest in the stands. Don't get me wrong; seeing these get me wrong; seeing these athletes in action will impress you enough to make the trip athletes in action will impress you enough to make the trip worthwhile, but, trust me, few dykes will be able to keep their eyes only on the court. If it's true that all humans know each other within six degrees of separation, at a Stanford-Cal women's hoop game, we all know each other within three, I suspect.

Don't despair if you missed last week's game. Cal travels to Stanford for the rematch on Friday, February 18— and so should you!

If you are not into competitive sports, you'll get a whole different crowd of lesbian athletes at Washington Square and MacArthur's Park, two of the city's rest spots for bike messengers. These dykes on bikes pedal hard, risk injury, and defy fashion sense with a fierce spirit that transcends mere.

and defy fashion sense with a fierce spirit that transcends mere Attitude.

Isn't it uplifting to know that throughout the Bay Area lesbians are making their presence felt? It got me thinking about what Td do if I lived out in the wilds, enduring an isolation that made me feel as if lesbians were nowhere to be found.

I'd send myself two pack-

I'd send myself two packages — one with UPS and the other with Fed Ex — and the odds are that I'd be greeted at the door by a tidy, efficient, strong woman in uniform who would remind me, once again, that we are everywhere!

California News

Protest on Behalf of Women Prisoners with HIV this Saturday

by Judi Parks

On Saturday, January 29, California gay and lesbian activists will join prison activists from San Francisco and Los Angeles at the gates of the Central California Women's Facility at Chowchilla, to protest lack of medical treatment for women with HIV/ AIDS. Located 30 miles from Fresno, the women's prison— Fresno, the women's prison— one of the larger in the coun-try—has never experienced a

try — has never experienced a protest at its gates. So far. CCWCF was recently in the news when terminally ill inmate Betty Jo Ross received compassionate release when prison activist Joann Walker secured a petition on Ross's behalf with signatures of over 1,000 of the approximately 3,000 inmates there. Walker, who is also HIV-positive, was Ross's roommate and witnessed her lack of medical treatment.

treatment.
The San Francisco Chronicle reported that her release was denied twice by the State Department of Corrections prior to the lengthy protests by prisoners and activists.

prisoners and activists.

Upon release January 5,
Ross was immediately hospitalized for treatment of CMV
retinitis. According to Judy
Greenspan, lesbian activist
with ACT UP San Francisco
and spokesperson for the
Coalition to Support Women
Prisoners at Chowchilla, Ross
had become nearly blind in
one eye and had received no
treatment for this condition
while inside the prison. She
had been serving a two-year
sentence for assault.
The Coalition maintains

sentence for assault.

The Coalition maintains that "Prisoners are legally entitled to the same standard of care that is available to people in the general community. By denying women adequate By denying women adequate medical treatment, the CDC is creating a life-threatening, emergency situation at Chowchilla." Walker said the doctor hired to treat HIV at the prison is a "retired pediatrician who is so old he can hardly walk to his car."

Why it's a gay issue

Greenspan told the Bay Area Reporter that "Support for women prisoners with HIV and AIDS should be a major concern for the lesbian and gay community, because many of the women inside Chowchilla are lesbians—and many are lesbians of color who are fighting the worst forms of homophobia inside the prisons, compounded with the stigma of having HIV and

"The women inside face a very serious situation," she said. "A large number of the women have had little or no access to health care and are coming in already with compromised immune systems. systems



The Central California Women's Correctional Facility at Chowchilla, site of the January 29 protest. (Photo: Judi Parks)

Weinstein, a medical expert

Weinstein, a medical expert who recently toured the prison; relatives of the prison-ers; Crystal Mason, of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Women in Prison Project; Dorsey Nunn, of Legal Ser-vices for Prisoners with Chil-dren; and California lawyers

dren; and California lawyers who are preparing a class action lawsuit on behalf of women prisoners around medical issues.
Carpools will leave San Francisco at 8 a.m. from the Safeway parking lot at Church and Market, and from the East Bay's MacArthur BART station at 8:30 a.m. For rides and more information, call (510) 530-6214 or (415) 861-4058. ▼

They have no rights, and while there are few lesbian and gay rights on the outside,

while there are lew lessban and gay rights on the outside, there are are fewer inside. Until we speak out about the abuse, homophobia, and violence, the substandard medical care will continue."

According to Chowchilla Public Information Officer Toby Wong, all known women with HIV are confined to "C yard" to provide better treatment to the population. However, WORLD, an Oakland-based organization for women with HIV, reports that due to security leaks, ignorance, and the stigma surrounding HIV, women who refuse to identify as HIV-positive are discouraged from being tested due to the lack of pre- and post- test counseling.

Women with HIV are also discouraged from revealing their HIV status because they are medically restricted from work shifts which enable the prisoners to earn good time credits for sentence reduction. credits for sentence reduction.

By not identifying their status, they receive no opportunity for early intervention which is known to increase lifespan, and increase the likelihood that AIDS gynecological symptoms will be misdiagnosed and incorrectly treated.

The Collition reports that

The Coalition reports that at Chowchilla "guards diagnose medical problems and prescribe drugs. The guards (who earn \$56,000 a year) often make incorrect diagnosis ten make incorrect diagnosis and prescribe dangerously wrong drugs. One woman had HIV-related thrush in her mouth. When the medicated lozenges she needed were not available, she was given vaginal suppositories to eat."

A picket line at the gate of CCWCF is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday morning with a rally starting at 1:30 p.m. Speakers include former Chowchilla prisoners; Corey

AB101 Author Won't Seek New Term

SACRAMENTO — Assemblymember Terry Friedman, D. Sherman Oaks, champion of gay and lesbian civil rights and author of the gay rights bills AB 101 and AB 2601, has announced that he will not seek another term.

One capitol staffer said, "We are losing some of the best, most efficient members of the legislature. We are losing the repository memory of this branch of our government as people leave this arena. Term limits and the rabid right wing are fueling the exodus, and I dread to see what heartless, mindless, witless golems are going to take over."

Friedman also said his move is predicated on being able to spend more time with his family.

— Marghe Covino

- Marghe Covino

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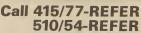
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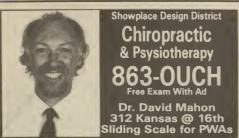
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Community News

Tough Times at Theatre Rhino

by Mimi=Freed

Theatre Rhinoceros, the nation's oldest gay and les-bian theatre, is celebrating its sixteenth anniversary during the 1993-94 season. Making a theatre last for so many years is no easy task, so the venera-ble San Francisco theatre has good reason to celebrate; but cuts in arts funding are starting to hurt it badly.

While not all of Rhino's

while not all of Khino's projects become well known, some have had great impact. In the theatre's 1984-85 season, it produced one of the first theatrical works dealing with AIDS, called *The AIDS* Show. The show went on to with AIDS, called *The AIDS*Show. The show went on to a national tour, and ended up on PBS. The Z Collective members originally met while working on a show at Rhino, and the improv comedy group Global Riot also evolved out of an original meeting at Rhino.

Associate Artistic Director

Associate Artistic Director Associate Artistic Director Doug Holsclaw describes Rhino as an "artist-driven theatre." Managing Director George Hurd agrees, saying "Money is not the primary factor. Our primary purpose is providing a place for lesbian and gay artists to do their work. their work

"Because the theatre is a non-profit," Hurd adds, "we need to support the work we do with small NEA and Cali-fornia Arts Council grants." In fact, Rhino survives on income from almost twenty different sources, including 1,500 subscribers; the California Arts Council; the NEA; Bay Area Career Women; and Horizons. And although a healthy 60 percent of Rhino's income comes from direct ticket sales and individual donors it has to nick un the fact. Rhino survives on indonors, it has to pick up the rest elsewhere when the grants start to look shaky, which is its current dilemma.

Artistic Director Adele Prandini explains the funding

troubles are symptomatic of the nationwide decline of arts funding. Most non-profit arts organizations depend on grants, foundations, and en-dowments for survival. The economic recession has cut deeply into those funding sources. "Because we're a lesbian and gay organization that's deeply interested in difference and providing a place for that difference, that doesn't make us very popular among mainstream organiza-tions," says Prandini.

tions," says Prandini.

The current economic climate has been building for a long time, according to Prandini, who said it was foreshadowed when Ronald Reagan became California's governor. "The first thing he did was wipe away social programs, and that foretold a changing of priorities: "We no changing of priorities: 'We no longer care about health and welfare, we care about monwelfare, we care about mon-ey' When the government took that stance of changing priorities, it had a trickle-down effect. It got hard for people to make money," she said. "Then we got hit with AIDS, which that government was not interested in address-ing" she added.

mas not interested in audiessing," she added.

The theatre has been forced to cut back salaries and staff members. Previously paid part-time positions for concessions staffing have been aliminated; the concessions. been eliminated: the conces sions are now run by volun-

It is a source of both pride

kind. "There are not a lot of lesbian and gay non-profit theatres in the country" says Managing Director George Hurd. "We are one of the few. There's probably under six." Rhino's subject matter has gotten more popular over the years. Nine years ago Rhino was one of the few places that would produce gay work, re-

would produce gay work, remembers Holsclaw. Oscar Huestes, the original director of Angels in America, once said, "Having Rhino around lets [mainstream Bay Area theatres] off the hook." Now Holsclaw witnesses a "backhanded compliment" from other Bay Area theatres asking to buy the mailing list.
"Marin Theatre is now doing a play about a father and gay son," he observed. "Now ev-ery other theatre company wants the gay dollars."
"For the first time we have

a visible, multi-generational community and it's really about investing in that comabout investing in that com-munity so we can create and leave a legacy," said Prandini. Community involvement is foremost for her, she ac-knowledged, adding, "When-ever we take an action that generates a sense of community, we're affecting people in a positive way."

a positive way."

In exchange, however, Rhino would like to see the community respond in kind. Speaking of one recent cut in funding by the San Francisco Foundation, she said, "There are gay and lesbian people giving money to the San Francisco Foundation for the opera and ballet, but it's important to put our support into our community."

In the meantime, Theatre Rhinoceros is far too commit-

Rhinoceros is far too committed to the community to cave ted to the community to cave into mundane external pressures like a funding crunch. It is working on plans to bring in more funding, and is preparing to move from its present location at 16th Street and South Van Ness to a new site, closer to the Castro, with a smaller overhead.

Note: To send donations con-tact Managing Director George Hurd or Adele Pran-dini at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street, San Francis-co, CA 94103. Or call the box office: (415) 861-5079, and business office: (415) 55.2-4100.



Theatre Rhino is in trouble. and some annoyance for The

arre Rhinoceros that it often competes with, and is com-pared to, theatres "that spend

our yearly budget on one show," Prandini said. In fact, there is a big difference be-tween Rhino and more main-

tween Rhino and more mainstream venues like Yerba Buena or Theatre Artaud. Those theatres provide raw space for a production, but of fer little else in the way of artistic support; Theatre Rhinoceros is different because it offers more support for the artists. That includes everything from taking the

everything from taking the germ of an idea and holding

workshops and readings, to a full production of a show with lighting, sound, set, stage

management, performers and a director. "We are a produc-er," says Holsclaw. "That's a

er," says Holsclaw. "That's a dying thing."
Although—or, perhaps, because—Rhino's style of artistfriendly production is not in keeping with today's trends, its schedule is still very full.
The theatre is busy all year: around 150 artists work on Rhino's two stages in a year's time, all overseen by a staff of

time, all overseen by a staff of

only six.

Despite the numbers of

good things that come from places like Rhino, the Rhino

formula is almost one of a

Rhino manager George Hurd, Artistic Director Adele Prandini, and Associate Artistic Director Doug Holsclaw.

S.C. County's Raucous AIDS Services Meeting

by Marv. Shaw

Patient impatience and as Patient impatience and assertions of improvement vied for attention at the latest of public forums on the operation of the AIDS treatment program in Santa Clara County, held at the Billy De Frank Gay and Lesbian Community Center on Monday, January 24.

Moderated by Dr. Stan

Moderated by Dr. Stan
Dereshinski, the main purposes of the session were to introduce the new administrator of the program, Mark
Madsen, and to explain the changes in the operation, but
critical questions and vehement condemnations from the audience, some of whom were PWAs, punctuated the

The meeting was originally announced as a session to consider and remedy the inadequacies of patient handling in the present transformational stage of the AIDS. mational stage of the AIDS program in Santa Clara County, as reported in the Bay ty, as reported in the Bay Area Reporter of January 20. However, that detail of the program, while definitely a part of the evening's proceed-ings, was not the primary rea-son for it. The major objective was to chart the changes in the organization of the pro-gram within the whole county medical set-up, to tell of the reasons for those changes, to spell out the problems they entail, and to project plans for dealing with those problems. For reasons that range

from financial constraints to better coordination of ser-

vices, the consolidation of AIDS services in Santa Clara County (along with the shifting of other health services) has brought about a space problem for each component, especially the Early Prevention Program and the Immuno-Compromised Host Clinic. Those two are primary for the HIV-positive patients and those with full blown AIDS.

The contention of Rocci

The contention of Rocci Montesano, a PWA, and others in the same situation, is that the internal shifting of the Early Prevention Program and the AIDS Clinic opgram and the AIDS Clinic op-erations has so squeezed space that the present room, which is simply a small trail-er, is so inadequate that pa-tients have had to wait in the weather or, if they are lucky enough to have cars, stay in them until they can be served. This complaint was reiterated several times durreiterated several times dur-ing the session, but although the respondents from the administrative section of the S.C. County AIDS Program tried to explain the reasons for the shifts and for the delay in se-curing adequate space for treatment, no offer to ameliorate the space situation was immediately forthcoming.

The explanation offered by

Robin Rouche, head of outpatient services for what is now called the Santa Clara Valley Hospital and Health System, was that the efforts to secure adequate room for services (through the leasing of floor space in a building deemed to

be adequate for the opera-

tions) have been fraught with the conventional delays and difficulties experienced between lessees and lessors. Rouche's forecast was that at least two to four months would still be required to work through the problems. Added to that is the probability that up to six months—and possibly even a vear—and possibly even a vear and possibly even a year — might be required to make the floor space usable for the

operation.

These forecasts of delays in the face of current inadequate facilities and overworking of staff were infuriating to the PWAs present. Typical of the protests was the senti-ment of one PWA, that he wouldn't live long enough to see the new facilities in oper-

Although objections of a similar nature surfaced throughout the meeting, the administrative staff present succeeded in stating information or succeeding the succeeding stating or succeeding the succeeding stating or succeeding the succeeding stating or succeeding stating or succeeding stating stating succeeding stating stati succeeded in stating informa-tion on service improvement. The increased efficiency through consolidation and in-crease of staff was made clear: for example, on the lat-ter point, the announcement was made that the position of benefits counselor was recent-ly filled, as was also a nutri-tionist. Some of the staffing and other improvements and other improvements were derived from securing more money from the Ryan White Fund, a federally-financed source.

The connection between research and patient testing was reinforced through the assertion that research is nec essary to determine treatment

From cop to bottom

Former SFPD cop, and now unemployed private citizen, Tom Gerard faces charges he was in possession of unauthorized police files. He and art dealer Roy Bullock allegedly collected information on leftist individuals and groups for the Anti-Defamation League. Among the subjects of scrutiny: the B.A.R., which was described in their files as "pinko." (Photo: Judi Parks)

programs that can benefit the

A contrast was offered be-tween the public hospitals' AIDS assignments and those And assignments and those of private hospitals, such as Kaiser. In the former, patients are in the care of AIDS specialists, but in the latter are assigned randomly to physician street and the care of AIDS specialists, but in the latter are assigned randomly to physician street are signed to the care of t cians with no particular expertise in AIDS.

One problem was seen as

on the way to solution through improved informa-tion services to patients. A case was cited in which two lovers, both with AIDS, were hospitalized but put in separate rooms, despite their pleas to stay together. Connie Lang, a nursing supervisor in the program, stated that this prac-

was no longer enforced but this information had not yet been made available to patients.

Although the testimony was replete with protests about mismanagement and in-

about mismanagement and inadequacies, one attendee
came to the defense of the
Santa Clara Program by explaining why he came from
Alameda County for his treatment, citing better coordination of facilities in particular.
The present transitional
state of the entire program
and its problems was stated
succinctly by Dereshinski:
"We can't disagree on the present inadequacy of the operation," he said, "but we are
moving toward improvement
as fast as we can."

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Community News

Teachers Learn as They Fight For Domestic Partnership Rights

by Scott Lankford

"What you are doing is immoral, unethical, and illegal!"
The faculty union negotiator of the Foothill/De Anza Community College District in California chose those words — as he was pounding his fist on the table, no less — to open the first formal meeting on domestic partners health benefits for lesbian and gay employees. Not a management negotiator, but one from the union; someone who is supposed to fight for the rights of Foothill/De Anza's employees, including the gay

rights of Pootnilipe Anals employees, including the gay ones, including myself.

My faculty union colleague was not referring to the supposed sin of sodomy or similar fundamentalist fictions. At the Bay Area campus where I work as an English professor, such brazen homophobia would be considered extreme-ly uncool. Instead, our faculty

ly uncool. Instead, our faculty union leader was referring — with unmistakable hostility—to the early efforts of our recently formed faculty/staff Gay and Lesbian Association to lobby for domestic partners health benefits.

By standing up for our own civil rights we were, the union warned us ominously, subverting the formal contract negotiating process. The union—and only the union—would decide what was "negotiable" and what was not. In other words, we were not gotiable" and what was not. In other words, we were not



Foothill/De Anza English professor Scott Lankford

playing straight: instead of sitting back passively like good little pansies, we were rocking the boat. Making Waves. Acting Up.

It didn't matter, apparently, that we had asked, begged, pleaded, and formally requested the help of our union representatives in person and

representatives in person and in writing numerous times in the last six months. Nor did it

the last six months. Nor did it matter that we were personal friends, professional colleagues, or former allies in previous battles between faculty and administration.

Didn't we realize California was suffering through its worst recession in 50 years? Didn't we realize that no one could afford to be fair? In other words, "Don't call us, we'll call you." In still other words, "Thanks but no thanks."

call you." In still other words, "Thanks but no thanks."

So we did a little calling of our own. We called on our faculty, staff, and management colleagues on campus, asking them to sign a petition in support of domestic partners benefits. We called on the head of human relations for our district for a little chat for our district for a little chat about how she'd react to our domestic partners proposal (the answer, after a bit of careful coaxing and re-educa-tion, was surprisingly encour-aging). We called on our fel-low faculty activists at Stan-ford who was their count of ford, who won their own domestic partners health bene-fits privileges a few short weeks before we did. We weeks before we did. We called on employee activists at major Bay Area corporations that already have domestic partners health benefits, such as Hewlett-Packard, Apple, and Levi Strauss, for copies of contracts, definitions, strategies, and support. It was precisely these organizing efforts on our own behalf that were now being characterized as "unethical,"

immoral, and illegal." How dare we stand up for our-selves when we had a faculty union to stand up for us? How indeed?

Six months later the same union negotiator who attacked us at our first meeting signed off on what we now believe to be the first commu-nity college domestic partners health benefits contract in the country — one of just a hand-ful of such contracts in all col-

s and universities nation

wide. In a newsletter dis-tributed to faculty unions across the state, our local union even took credit for "leading the fight for equal rights"

There are, I believe, several lessons to be learned from our experience — lessons that might well be applied to gay and lesbian employee organiz-ing efforts on other campus.

Rule One: Allies are Everywhere.

Help comes from unexpected quarters, often with unexpected courage. In our own case, unexpected allies (those who came to the aid of our fledgling Gay and Lesbian Employees Association long before it was clear that we would have a prayer of succeeding) included the college president, vice president, and district chancellor, the student body president, the non-faculty employees union student body president, the non-faculty employees union (SEIU), and more than 100 faculty and staff colleagues who willingly signed our pub-lic petition regardless of their own personal or political affil-

Rule Two: Watch your back.

Opposition comes from unexpected quarters, often with unexpected cowardice. In our case, as in the scene described above, opposition came from precisely those people whom we naively expected would support us whole-heartedly, including several leaders of our powerful faculty union, as well as several minority faculty members who, despite their own lifelong struggle for civil rights, were initially unable to overcome their religious prejudices against gays and lesbians when asked to sign our petition. Most malevolent of all were those gay and lesbian faculty members who guarded their own closets by publicly mocking and subverting our cause.

Rule Three: Be persistent,

Rule Three: Be persistent, patient, and proud.

For most intelligent individuals, chronic homophobia is a curable condition. By always reacting calmly and carefully to even the most ignorant or hostile statements, we gradually turned the tone of most meetings from homophobic to helpful. We are, after all, professional educators: opening minds to new ideas, new perspectives, and new opening minds to new ideas, new perspectives, and new ways of looking at the world is not necessarily something we do only for our students. With pride, patience, and persistence, we can also teach our friends, colleagues, and co-workers how to treat us with dignity and respect.

One Teaching Tip: the calming sight of silver-haired senior faculty members and their lifelong partners (many of whom had lived in committed relationships for decades)

ted relationships for decades)
was particularly powerful in counteracting pernicious stereotypes

Rule Four: Do Your Homework (and Theirs).

In the best of all possible worlds, our faculty union and management would have tak-en the initiative to research

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California News

Bored of Education: School Voucher Campaign Dropped

by Marghe Covino B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO - After SACRAMENTO — After submitting at least five new potential initiatives for 1994, school voucher proponents have decided there is not enough time to raise the necessary funds to fund their battlet this year and have onted tle this year and have opted to wait until March 1996 — presidential primary time — to fight it.

fight it.

Proposition 174, last year's school voucher initiative, would have used taxpayer monies to give parents \$2,600 per school-aged child to send children to virtually unregulated private schools. It was widely condemned by schoolteachers and supported by members of the christian right and the state Republican party.

can party.

Despite the defeat of Prop. Despite the defeat of Prop.
174 last November, voucher supporters — hoping to use the public awareness and publicity generated by the \$18 million campaign — submitted new initiatives to the Secretary of State's office, at least three of which were cleared for signature gathering.

However, voucher supporters, who were outspent 5-to-1 in the Prop. 174 campaign, decided in a series of meetings around the state they would again be at a disadvantage. Kevin Teasley, executive director of the Excellence through Choice in Education

through Choice in Education League, (EXCEL), sponsor of

Prop. 174, said, "It would have been dramatic to come back for the '94 ballot but it's just not the right timing." One California Teacher's Association member, a gay teacher, translates that to mean there's

The teacher, who asked not to be identified, said, not to be identified, said, "This is a pincer movement; the battle isn't over, they're just putting their resources into election battles. These people are masters at long range planning and they're determined on this issue, but they want to position themselves. If they don't have enough people to legislate it next time then they'll go to the initiative ballot with a new more palatable glossier. new, more palatable, glossier

new, more palatable, glossier package."

Still another gay school administrator said, "The gay community needs to stand up and say, 'Hell, no! We're not going to let them use our tax dollars to teach a whole new generation of bigots that we deserve the death penalty just for being who we are... but I'm afraid the people in our community, on a number of levels, avoid the issue — we simply have to stop being

revers, avoid the issue — we simply have to stop being silent about this.

"We're taxpayers, we're footing the bill, and we have the right not to be vilified, slandered, and trashed, dammit."

Bay Area physician and voucher drive leader Alan Bonsteel told the B.A.R.,

"There's not much time to raise a lot of money for the November 1994 election, and our opponents can come up with massive amounts of money with little effort — we want to have three times as much money next time."

nuch money next time."

In truth, voucher proponents are facing burnout from both contributors and footsoldiers, who would have faced the prospect of having to gather more than 620,000 signatures by mid-April to qualify for the November ballet and then raise millions of quality for the November bal-lot, and then raise millions of dollars for the initiative effort and subsequent campaign. Reportedly it would be diffi-cult to raise money even from dedicated contributors, who saw the ballot rejected by 70 percent to 30 percent in most precincts. precincts.

During the school voucher battles of 1993, polls showed that Californians supported school reforms and agreed with the concept of giving parents a choice of schools, parents a choice of schools, but were suspect of Prop. 174. Two common concerns were the lack of educational standards and regulation of the schools and the fiscal effects on the public school system in the event the experiment did not work.

with that in mind, voucher proponents say they hope to draft new voucher proposals that will be more acceptable to the voters in March of 1996. ▼



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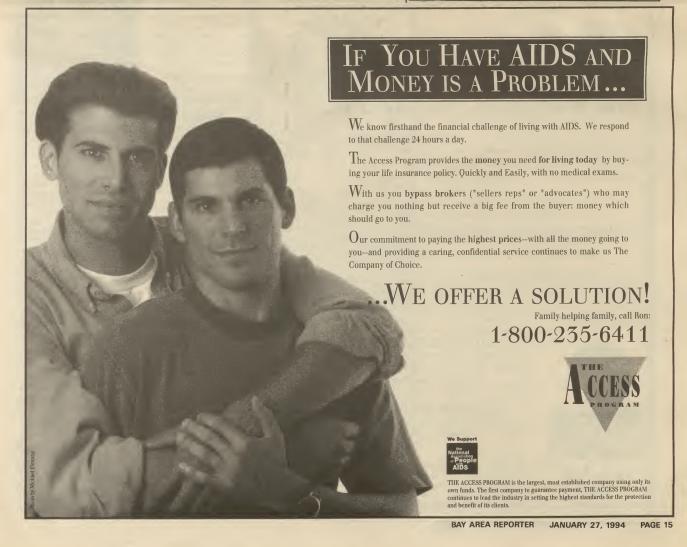
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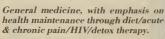
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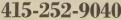
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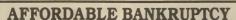
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Community

The Dykes Who Walk The Planks on Castro

Serena Drogose still remembers the time when a male customer picked up a bar stool and sent it hurtling rards her.
'He was ranting and rav-

ing how he didn't want me here, and that his friends were going to come down and beat me up," she told the Bay Area Reporter. "I asked him to leave and he picked up a bar stool. The next thing I know I see this thing flying at the edge of my eye."

At other times, Drogose said, angry customers have thrown beer bottles and spit in her face, all because she was one of the first women to work in a Castro-area bar, The

Bear.
While contending with drunk and unruly customers is a part of the job for all bartenders, lesbians who work in Castro bars say they deal with extra, if diminishing, threats.
Many echo the complaints of Many echo the complaints of women's groups that have re-

women's groups that have re-cently spoken out against sex-ism in the Castro.

"In the beginning, it was really very tough," remem-bers Italia Nappi, who began working at the Elephant Walk when it re-opened after the fire that destroyed it more than three years ago. "A lot of older men would say they didn't want me working here. Or they would be really wor-



Bartender Lisa Francis.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

ried that it was turning into a

ried that it was turning into a women's bar, and they made it clear that they were unhappy with that."

Currently, just one Castroarea bar has the reputation of being a "women's bar." In reality, though, The Cafe on Market Street draws a mixed crowd.

"A lot of my male friends would wonder if they were welcome in this bar," says Lisa Francis of The Cafe. "I would say, 'Honey, I'm there. If you can make it up the stairs and down again of stairs and down again, of course you can come up and

Francis had also just re-ceived a bouquet of flowers from the male victim of the gunpoint robbery at 17th and Noe Streets. She had been walking her dogs in the area when the robbery occurred and comforted the man after his attackers fled his attackers fled.

The unkindest cut-off

One of the most enduring and least endearing difficulties women bartenders face is "cutting off" customers who have had too much to drink, especially among clients who may resent placing their orders with a woman in the first place. first place.

first place.

"It's a big issue," says Nappi. "Whenever someone is cut off they're already impaired. Then it [often reverts] to the cultural-based misogyny that's inbred, even in women.

Without exception, all of the women interviewed by the B.A.R. for this article agree that their working conditions as lesbians in a traditionally gray and a significant to the state of th tionally gay male neighbor-hood have improved dramat-ically in recent years. They attribute the change to more accepting attitudes among men, and the increasingly visible presence of women

Some stated that in the past they and their women friends had felt more at ease on Polk Street or in the Haight. The Castro, however, has begun offering spaces that, while not restricted to women, afford virtually any-

women, afford virtually anyone the opportunity to be comfortable.

"We really try to provide an atmosphere that's congenial to everyone," says Chris Storm, who has been working at The Midnight Sun on 18th Street for a year. "I've never had a problem with male customers."

Storm adds that her past experience of working in

straight clubs have been far

straight clubs have been far more trying.

"It was a nightmare sometimes. I didn't want to be friendly with the men because then they would expect something. I don't have that problem here. It's a real joy for me to live and work in my community."

All of these women state

All of these women state that supportive management has been crucial to improving working conditions. In some cases, the presence of women employees has been specifically designed to bring in a certain clientele.

"I was hired to attract the women," says Drogose. "Jerry [former Bear manager who died two years ago] got com-plaints when he hired me, but plaints when he hired me, but he recognized the potential of the lesbian and gay communi-ty being united, and not just in terms of dollars." Lesbian bartenders also

provide invaluable services that can't always be mea-sured. While Drogose was besured. While Drogose was being interviewed, a woman identifying herself as Liz walked in and said she had moved to San Francisco the day before. She focused on Drogose for information on local lesbian activities and groups, questions many gay male bartenders would find difficult to answer.

difficult to answer.

They build bridges in oth-



Bartender Chris Storm.

"The male customers are fascinated by having a wom-an work here," notes Storm.

an work here," notes Storm.
"They love to ask questions.
They're intrigued by my relationship with my girlfriend, and she always has a lot of company when she comes in."

At the Elephant Walk,
Nappi is working to revive the Monday Women's Night.
And, as an Assistant Manager, she was instrumental intringing up a female mignap play. lining up a female piano play-

No more open-toed shoos

While all the women applauded the sputtering demise of "three picture IDs" and "no open-toed shoes" poli-cies, as ways of restricting ac-cess to certain clubs, they stat-ed their shared belief that men and women should respect spaces reserved for one or the other.

More importantly, they all stressed their firm conviction that the lesbian and gay male community will either rise or fall together.

fall together.

"It takes a lot of work," says Francis. "There's still an underlying sense that it's okay to make fish jokes. But if I can dispel some of the misconceptions, that's the most important thing I can do. The more we separate and divide, the harder it's going to be for us to make any progress."



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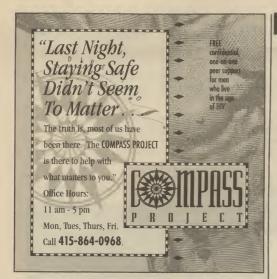
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For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San California News

Lesbians and Gays are Still Shaking Down South

Southern California lesbians and gays are struggling with thousands of neighbors to reconstruct their lives, after the thunderous 6.6 earth-quake that struck January 17. That quake left at least 55 dead, thousands homeless, and billions of dollars in damages in its wake; the toll has not yet been taken on the security destroyed, emotions shattered, and nerves still fraying from the constant af-

tershocks.

As the shaking continues—
and the aftermath looks more
inescapably like a foreshock
of The Big One—as with last
year's riots, fires, and mudslides, the story-telling helps
to heal and stabilize. Everyone is asking: Where were
you when the quake hit?
Here are some answers given
to the B.A.R. Here are som to the B.A.R.

"He says, 'How are you?"

Roughly ten miles from the Northridge epicenter in the San Fernando Valley, at the Tarzana home of attor-neys Roberta Bennett and Diane Abbitt, Bennett opened one eye as the house shook vi-olently. Abbitt, who has been deathly afraid of earthquakes since the massive 1971 Sylmar quake, was not so cool: she sat bolt upright in bed, screaming.

screaming.

"Things started falling over everywhere. Closet doors were coming off the walls and falling," Bennett recalls. "I jumped out of bed to get Nicholas [their five year old adopted son] and ran down the hall. Everything had fallen out — towels, sheets. books, wrapping passets.

had fallen out — towels, sheets, books, wrapping paper, a sewing kit. ...
"Diane was screaming 'Roberta, where are you? Do you have him? Do you have him?' I didn't want to answer because I didn't know what would happen next. One pitch and we could be thrown over the railing to the floor below.

over the railing to the Hoor below.

"I held my breath as I got to his door. He wasn't talking. He wasn't screaming. He wasn't crying. There's a floor to ceiling mirror on his closet door. ... That's when I real-ized I didn't have any shoes on How was I going to get on. How was I going to get

him?
"I opened his door. closet door had come off its hinges but hadn't fallen yet. He was sitting upright in bed. He looks at me and he says 'How are you?' I said, 'Okay. Are you alright?' He said 'Yes. I was waiting for you to come get me.''

Bennett carried Nicholas

where they climbed carefully back into bed and waited until dawn. They've moved into a friend's house until their own is repaired.

"Compulsively prepared"

"The first time I recognized what was happening was waking up to find myself on my hands and knees on the floor," says Donna Siperek, a radiographic technologist in Beverly Hills. "I had been physically thrown out of bed. I tried to stand up but couldn't. I was so frightened I started looking for my ened. I started looking for my

one-year-old Sheltie Pamas. I felt her fly by and knew she was running around the

Since she is "terribly, compulsively prepared," Siperek thad a flashlight and radio by the bed. Everything had fall-en out of the closets and plas-ter was coming down. With her lover and her shaking her lover and her shaking dog, she spent the rest of that early morning huddled in bed, "listening apprehensively to the radio" and making a clean up "plan of attack." And she reflected on "how fortunate" she'd been and "what a good life" the lovers had shared for 20 years.

The mirror didn't crack

Real estate agent Penny Lee Morgan lives 20 minutes from the epicenter in a mod-ular, pre-fabricated house in Sylmar next to a dam and the slipping mountains. Morgan and her lover Carol Winicur and her lover Carol Winicur felt the mirror and bookshelves attached to their platform bed shaking. "I hollered for [Winicur] who was next to me to make sure she was okay. Then I grabbed for Monroe [her two-year-old Westie]. There was debris falling everywhere. We all clutched together on the floor by the bed. The mirror stayed. And even though all the books fell out, they're softbound. I only got a cut on my forehead and hit in the back of the head.

my forehead and hit in the back of the head.

"I didn't smell any gas, so I took the risk and lit two matches and walked from the bedroom to the kitchen to get a flashlight. I grabbed my purse and I got Carol through the house and we went banging on our neighbors' doors. I gave an extra flashlight to one neighbor. Next door there was a young child shaking like a leaf. I have a thyroid problem so I have tranquilizer medication; I gave roid problem so I have train-quilizer medication; I gave some to the husband to give to his traumatized wife and child if he wanted. Then I got the cars out of the garage and child if he wanted. Then I got the cars out of the garage and loaded them up with camping equipment." After making sure their "brothers and sis-ters" in the neighborhood were okay, they watched the mobile home fires break out below from their hilltop van-tage point. tage point.

Center of activity

Lorri L. Jean, executive di-rector of Gay and Lesbian Center of Southern California, and her lover, Gina Calvelli, awakened in their Hollywood home with a start. Hollywood home with a start. Jean's sensitivities are heightened because of her former job as deputy western and south Pacific regional director for FEMA — the Federal Emergency Management Agency. She knew instantly what was happening. She and Calvelli braced themselves in the door jamb until the shakthe door jamb until the shak-ing stopped, after which she determined that not much

Jean's first call (after the one to her mother) was to the night security at the Center: they were nervous and said they heard leaking water, which they couldn't find or turn off. Jean jumped in her car and drove the five minutes to the Center, arriving at

approximately 4:45 a.m. — about 15 minutes after the quake began.

"I care about the Center. And I was worried about the youth." She calmed down the 24 young people at the Kruks/Tilsner Youth Shelter and quickly inspected the premises to see if they needed to be evacuated. Fifteen minutes later Jan Holden, director utes later Jan Holden, director of Facilities, arrived from Sil-verlake followed shortly by Mel Edmonds, a youth advo-cate with Youth Services. They started collecting water for the youth in case the water was shut off, and surveyed the shelter room by room. They assured a young man that he didn't have to go back to his bed under a shattered window. window

window.

By 5:10 the Center's computer expert Perry Russ showed up to check the system. Other employees also started arriving. "I'm the boss, so I expect it of me," says Jean, "but all these other employees who showed up even plovees who showed up even when their own homes were damaged — it's above and beyond the call of duty." The Center suffered water damage and buckled ceilings, but no structural damage, in learly estimation. However Jean's estimation. However, several employees lost everything, Jean says.

Church damage

Several lesbian and gay Several lesbian and gay businesses also suffered from the quake. The Culver City-based Metropolitan Church of Los Angeles sustained major damage with the collapse of the bell tower, the second floor balcony, and their recently-renovated offices and sanctuary, according to a sanctuary, according to a press release from pastor Nancy Wilson. MCC in the Valley, however, suffered only damage to office equip-ment. "We're very blessed," says Board member Maggie

says Board member Maggie Erickson.
Ironically, the one-story Unity Fellowship of Christ Church (which houses the Mi-nority AIDS Project), located a few short blocks from MCC/ LA, sustained only minor damage when a few tiles fell from the ceiling, according to Gerald Ludd, MAP board member and Church Trustee.

Those other places of worship — lesbian and gay bars — actually fared better than might be expected, especially after everyone pitched in to help clean up. Club 22 in North Hollywood only suffered structural damage in the now closed pool room, the now closed pool room, says owner Nancy Kesterson. Otherwise the bar and dance area is "fully functioning." However, two lesbians who live in the area noticed the Building and Safety Department's distinctive red sticker on the door.

The lesbian Oxwood Inn in Van Nuys not only survived but went one step further — by hooking up newly homeless lesbians with frightened lesbians who live by themselves but now want

themselves but now want

themselves but now company.

Jewel's Catch One Disco had just been reinforced, says Jewel Thais-Williams, so the quake had no affect on the disco — although the mirror-lined Baldwin Hills condo she (Continued on next page)

GLAAD Media Watch

Support Violence on TV

nder attack for promoting violence, the major television networks have nounced plans to intensively examine the issue as part of their news and informational

their news and informational programming. NBC, CBS, and Fox are each producing specials on the subject of growing violence in the United States. CBS intends to fill primetime with a three-hour documentary on violence, slated to air in the Fall. Joining with CBS, on the same night, the Fox network will air a program on violence intended for young viewers. NBC has announced plans for a full week devoted to "America the Viodevoted to "America the Vio-lent: Fed Up and Fighting Back." That effort will involve NBC's news and entertain-

One question looms large: One question fooms large: Will these efforts address the issue of homophobic hate violence? Unfortunately, the major television networks have done a poor job in covering the hate violence beat.

Insist that the plague of homophobic hatred is included in the networks' exploration of in the networks' exploration of violence in America. Contact: Eric Ober, President, CBS News, 524 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019, 10019, 10019, tel. 212-975-4321; Andrew Lack, President, NBC News, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10112, tel. 212-664-4444; Lucie Salhany, President, Fox Broadcasting, Beverly Hills, CA 90213, tel. 310-277-2211.

Textbooks: Equity or Bigotry?

California Assemblymember Delaine Eastin, a candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction in the State's next election, has voiced her support for lesbian, are and hierarchical inclusion in the State's next election has voiced her support for lesbian, are and hierarchical inclusion in the state of gay, and bisexual inclusion in the California public school curriculum. In a recent meet-ing hosted by San Francisco Board of Education President Tom Ammiano, Eastin said that she recognizes the urgent need for textbooks that in-clude fair and factual information about lesbians and gays. She also said that, as Superintendent of Public Instruction,

she would be an advocate for educational equity.

Specifically, Eastin said that she would support legislation similar to a recently-enacted Massachusetts law that pro hibits discrimination against students in public schools on the basis of sexual orientation.
She also said that she would challenge homophobic sections of the California Education Code, which require the teaching of "honor and respect for monogamous, heterosexual marriage" in all public school textbooks and require parental consent before students can learn about such "controver-

to the deeply-homophobic members of the State Board of Education (who are not electthe ed, but appointed by the Gov-net- ernor). Let Eastin — and every an- candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction — know how important it is for text-books to treat lesbian and gay subjects with fairness and ac-curacy. Urge every candidate for this office to make educafor this office to make educa-tional equity a top campaign priority. We cannot afford to continue teaching hatred and fear to California's children. The fight against homophobia should begin where in the dis-ease itself first takes hold — in our classrooms and textbooks.

Share your thoughts with Delaine Eastin, Assembly-member, California Legislature, 39650 Liberty St., Suite 160, Fremont, CA 94538, tel. 510-791-2151, fax 916-324-2936.

Hate Media Alerts

The Right Wing continues to flood the country with video tapes, brochures, booklets, and other hate media in a non-stop misinformation cam paign. Among the latest contri paign. Among the latest contributions is a widely-circulated pamphlet titled *The Psychology of Homosexuality*. This glossy little tract is published by the Family Research Institute, a group of deeply disturbed and delusional men who describe themselves as "scientists defending traditional family values."

al family values."
According to The Psychology of Homosexuality, les-bians and gays tend to "dis-play defensive malice towards play detensive malice towards others," are "generally unreli-able" and "of a more or less psychopathic nature" and (get this) "provoke attacks against themselves and then count these 'attacks' as injustices they had suffered." The authors conclude: "The 'gay life' is short, lonely, and filled with cheating, insecurity, disease. cheating, insecurity, disease, and danger."

Among some of the "facts" you might not have known the booklet reports that homo-sexuals are "about a third more apt [than heterosexuals] to report a traffic ticket or traffic accidents." When lesbians and gays aren't busy voting for special rights, it seems, we're running people down on America's highways. Who America's highways. Who knew that bad driving was part of "the gay agenda?"

The P of H also includes plenty of figures, charts, and

graphs that "document" every thing from "one night stands' to "fecal exposure" rates among homosexuals. All of this would simply be amusing if the Family Research Center if the Family Research Center were not so successful in passing these ridiculous and hateful pamphlets off as "legitimate research." The Institute's "scientific evidence." was widely touted during Colorado's Amendment 2 trial, for example

consent before students can learn about such "controversial" subjects as masturbation and homosexuality. "After all," said Eastin," the State doesn't require us to first get a parent's permission before teaching geography."

Eastin's support for affirmative education is a welcome sign. California needs a strong advocate for education al equity in the Superintendent's Office who can stand up the support of th

We must confront homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay We must contront homophobia in order to cure it! Io notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, write to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call our main office at 415-861-4588; fax, 415-861-4893; South Bay, 408-235-0229; East Bay, 510-273-9146; North Bay, 415-647-3055. ▼

Shaking

shares with Rue Thais-Williams of Rue's House was completely trashed. (Rue's House, a shelter for women and children with AIDS, was fine once the electricity was restored, she told the B.A.R.)

Emergency heroes

Hardly mentioned in the nedia's coverage of the quake and its aftermath are the emer-gency workers: law enforce-ment, doctors, workers, public employees who left their own

employees who left their own disasters to help the public. "I feel worn out and frazzled," says Cathy Fredin, who, as a telephone operator in the Van Nuys office of Pacific Bell, was required to be at work at 8:00 a.m. the morning of the quake. The structural weaknesses of the Van Nuys building necessitated the relocation of workers to the Burbank office, where "it's been crazy ever since" directing calls and calming hysterical people, she said.

people, she said.
Fredin's lover Christy Martinez, director of Human Resources at the Center, looked at pictures of the thousands of non-English-speaking newly homeless and decided to vol-unter. "It's one thing to speak the language," she says, "but it's a completely different thing to understand how the culture might impact decision making. There may be two apartments available for one family but they may chose to remain homeless rather than splitting up, for instance."

That point was also

That point was also stressed by lesbian City Coun-cilmember Jackie Goldberg in an unprecedented meeting



LA Councilperson Jackie Goldberg

with President Clinton and federal, state, and local offi-cials Thursday, January 19. She noted that Hollywood had been devastated and that many of her constituents there who had previously suffered through quakes in Asian, Mex-ican, and Armenian homelands were were so fearful of losing their belongings at shel-

losing their belongings at shelters they were camping out on sidewalks.

Santa Monica's lesbian Mayor Judy Abdo also addressed Clinton and the other officials, complaining that Santa Monica had "an enormous amount of damage that is not being talked about."

What is being talked about in the days following the disaster is where the repair money is coming from, the debacle that is earthquake insurance, and the long drive commuters can expect for at least a year. Morgan, for instance, lives at a Morgan, for instance, lives at a corner selected as an alternative route for the closed 210

There is nothing

sweeter than

a promise kept.

There is nothing

more bitter than

and 5 freeways. "If I don't leave before 3 a.m.," she complained, "I can't get out." All across Southern California, commuters have seen their travel times go from an hour to three or from 90 minutes to to three, or from 90 minutes to six hours.

And the traffic isn't the

and the traffic isn't the only lingering reminder of the quake. There are also after-shocks, and afteraftershocks. "Aftershocks of size can have aftershocks of their own," cautions lesbian seismologist and Cal Tech spokesperson Dr. Kate Hutton, although the aftershocks are proceeding in a "normal" pattern by "diminishing in frequency."

But as lesbian and gay Southlanders try to return to business as usual, we nontheless take lessons from the Northridge Quake of '94: what's really important is our lives, our loves, and helping our neighbors.



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dential...they promise you will not have to pay their fee. They promise you will get your money quickly. They promise and they promise and they promise!

And who will these brokers sell your policy to? Not the company

that will pay you the most, but someone who will pay the broker the most. Think about that! And who are these "funding sources" that they are sending your personal and confidential medical records to? Someone you can check out? Someone you can trust? Someone you would want owning your life insurance policy?

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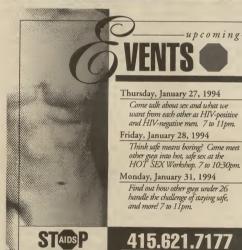
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National News

When the OCA Strikes, Who You Gonna Call? SOC PAC!

PORTLAND - Once again PORTLAND — Once again a Portland political organization has taken the lead in the fight against the anti-gay ballot measures promoted by the Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA). The group — Support Our Communities Political Our Communities Political Action Committee (SOC PAC) — is assuming approximately the same role played by the No on 9 Campaign prior to the November 1992 election in Oregon.

SOC PAC recently held a series of kick-off news conferences in Portland and other Oregon cities to announce a

Oregon cities, to announce a new coalition of human rights, religious, labor, busirights, religious, labor, business, medical, and gay/lesbian community organizations, all joined to oppose the OCA's second attempt to pass a statewide anti-gay ballot mea-

Julie Davis, SOC PAC ex-Julie Davis, SOC PAC ex-ecutive director and a former aide to openly lesbian State Representative Gail Shibley, said the newest OcA initia-tive "singles out a group of Oregonians for discrimination and takes away existing takes away existing

The OCA has just given

ine OCA has just given us a new wrapper on the same old package," she said.

[For the full text of the OCA's proposed ballot measure, see sidebar, "Hate in a Nutshell."]

At a news conference held at Portland's historic Benson Hotel, Davis was joined by several Portland community activists, most of whom par-ticipated in the fight against Ballot Measure 9. The speak-ers included ACLU of Ore-gon's lead attorney Charles Hinkle, and Rabbi Emanuel Rose of Portland's Temple Beth Israel.

Beth Israel.

In the organization's statement, read at the various news conferences, SOC PAC declared that "we, as citizens of Oregon, are astounded that the OCA would defy the will of Oregonizations who shoke of Oregonians who spoke clearly with their vote on civil rights last election. The peole of Oregon will not be oled by the new stealth ini-

We strongly believe," the statement continued, "the cit-izens of Oregon don't want discrimination in our state. Apparently the OCA doesn't understand that no means no. Now in the face of another discriminatory ballot initiative from the OCA, SOC PAC will lead the campaign effort against the so-called "Son of

'We don't want to see an-"We don't want to see another campaign divide Oregon. We don't want to spend another three million dollars on a 'Son of 9' campaign. We call on Oregonians to refuse to sign the 'Son of 9' initiative'."

Davis said that SOC PAC chose International Human Rights Week to announce the new campaign, because "the OCA initiative is still an attack on civil and human rights in Oregon." SOC PAC rights in Oregon. SOC FAC news conferences were also held in Salem, Albany, Asto-ria, Medford, Eugene, Coos Bay, and Bend. Some of the organizations and individuals endorsing the kickoff campaign were State

Senator Joan Dukes, State Representative George Eigh-mey (an openly-gay member of Oregon's Legislature), and mey (an openily-gay inteniber of Oregon's Legislature), and Albany Mayor Gene Behueumer. Organizations that endorsed SAC PAC include the Cascade AIDS Project, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Log Cabin Oregon, Eugene chapter of the NAACP, Bridgetown Realty of Oregon, Hotel Workers Organizing Committee, Gay and Lesbian Law Association, Communications Workers of America-Local 7901, Clackamas County Citizens Against Discrimination, Feminist Women's Health Center, and the Humanist Society of Salem.

SOC PAC was formed in March 1993. Its stated mission is "to use electoral campaigns to build the broadest possible coalition to counter the radicoalition to counter the radi-cal religious right, and to build a movement to advance and protect democratic free-doms, and civil and human rights." Its goals include edu-cating Oregon citizens about the dangers posed by the reli-gious right, increasing the ranks of registered voters who are committed to civil and human rights developing who are committed to evil and human rights, developing a statewide communications network, and persuading local leaders throughout Oregon to help oppose the "Son of 9" measure.

Hate in a Nutshell: OCA's "Minority and Child Protection Act"

"AN ACT

"Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

"The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section to be added to and made a part of Article

1. The new section shall be known as "The Minority Status and Child Protection Act" and will read as follows:

"Section 41: MINORITY STATUS BASED ON HOMOSEXUALITY PROHIBITED.

"(1) In the State of Oregon, including all political subdivisions and government units, minority status shall not apply to homosexuality; therefore, affirmative action, quotas, special class status or special classifications such as "sexual orientation," "domestic partnerships" or similar designations shall not be established on the basis of homosexuality.

"(2) Children, students and employees shall not be advised, instructed or taught by any government agency, department or political unit in the State of Oregon that homosexuality is the legal or social equivalent of race, color, religion, gender, age or national origin; nor shall public funds be expended in a manner that has the purpose or effect of promoting or expressing approval of homosexuality.

"(a) The State of Oregon, political subdivisions and all units of state and local government shall not grant marital status or spousal benefits on the basis of homosexuality.

"(b) The State of Oregon, political subdivisions and all units of state and local government, with regard to public employees, shall generally consider private lawful sexual behaviors as non-job related factors, provided such factors do not disrupt the work place and that such consideration does not violate subsections (1) and (2).

"(c) Though subsections (1) and (2) are established and in effect, no unit of state or local government shall deny to private

subsections (1) and (2).

"(c) Though subsections (1) and (2) are established and in effect, no unit of state or local government shall deny to private persons business licenses, permits or services otherwise due under existing statutes; nor deprive, nullify, or diminish the holding or exercise of any rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the State of Oregon or the Constitution of the United States of America.

States of America.

"(d) Though subsections (1) and (2) are established and in effect, this section shall not limit the availability in public libraries of books and materials written for adults which address homosexuality, provided access to such materials is limited to adults and meets local standards as established through the excitated library regulary.

isting library review process.

"(3) The PEOPLE INTEND, that if any part of this enact ment be found unconstitutional, the remaining parts shall survive in full force and effect. This Section shall be in all parts

vive in full force and effect. This Section shall be in all parts self-executing.

"The Office of Secretary of State has received an amended certified ballot title from the Supreme Court for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment.

"The certified ballot title is as follows:

"AMENDS CONSTITUTION: GOVERNMENTS CANNOT APPROVE, CREATE CLASSIFICATIONS BASED ON HOMOSEXUALITY

"SUMMARY: Amends state Constitution. Governments

"ecreate classifications based on homosexuality;

"eadvise or teach children, students, employees that homoexuality equates legally or socially with race, other protected

"*spend public funds in manner promoting or expressing approval of homosexuality;
"grant spousal benefits, marital status based on homosex-

uality;
"edeny constitutional rights, services due under existing

statutes.

"Measure nonetheless allows adult library books addressing homosexuality with adult-only access. Public employees' private lawful sexual behaviors may be cause for personnel ac-

tion, if those behaviors disrupt workplace.
"Chief Petitioner(s): Lon T. Mabon, Phillip Z. Ramsdell,
Kristi M. Mabon; each listing their address as: P.O. Box 407,
Wilsonville, OR 97070."▼

Oregon's Gays and Anti-Gays Agree: Nobody Likes HB 3500

A constitutional showdown over gay rights legislation in Oregon has reached the hands of the courts in two related is-

Judge Albin W. Norblad, of the Marion County Circuit Court, has been asked to decide whether the legislature or citizens in various commu-nities have the right to enact

laws about gay rights.
The conservative Oregon
Citizens Alliance initiated numerous municipal and county
measures prohibiting governmeasures prohibiting government support of homosexuality and minority status for homosexuals after its similar statewide initiative—Measure 9—was rejected by 57 percent of the voters in November, 1992. That referendum would have labeled homosexuality as abnormal and perverse and would have required state. would have required state and local governments to dis-

ocurage it.
OCA leader Lon Mabon revised the measure, with less offensive language, and has been successful in gaining bal-

lot status and passage in 15 cities and counties throughout

the state.
"Of course they are unconstitutional and will be found illegal," said Vietta Helmle, director of the Salem Women's Crisis Service. "But in the meantime, who knows how many years it will take before people will feel safe?"

The state's response to 9

Last August the state legislature approved HB 3500, prohibiting political subdivisions of the state — cities, counties, etc. — from enacting "special rights" to citizens because of sexual orientation. That's the bad news. The good news is that it also prohibits charter provisions, ordinances, resoluprovisions, ordinances, resolu-tions, or policies that "single out citizens or groups of citi-zens on account of sexual ori-entation." Predictably, be-cause it seeks to stop the ef-forts of both sides of the de-bate, virtually nobody is hap-ny with it

bate, virtually nobody is hap-py with it. Mabon and four other plaintiffs asked for a summa-ry judgement by Judge Nor-

blad Monday, January 24, to declare House Bill 3500 un-constitutional. The state also asked for a summary judge-ment on the issues.

The attorney general's of-fice filed motions in support of HB 3500, answering 32 arof HB 3500, answering 32 arguments regarding three separate but related cases brought by Mabon, Loretta Neet, David Graham, Paul de-Parrie, and Henry Kane.

Rather than waiting for the outcome of HB 3500 in the courts, and/or the local initiatives, the OCA has started new petitions to get its

initiatives, the OCA has started new petitions to get its "Minority Status and Child Protection Act" on the statewide ballot, purged of Measure 9's strong language about perversity that upset many voters in 1992. [See related stories, "When the OCA Strikes,." and "Hate in a Nutshell."] The American Civil Liberties Union suit on January 12 attempting to keep the measure off the November hallot, contending it vio ber ballot, contending it vio-lates the single subject rule, and creates a broader constiand creates a broader consti-tutional revision than allowed in the state's initiative and referendum process. The at-torney general's office gave the measure a green light,

the measure a green light, saying it is not overly broad.

The state previously succeeded in countering four of six ACLU motions about HB 3500, and both have entered motions on the two remaining

The major constitutional argument in that case centers around the right of the state

to enact preemptive legisla-tion, over the wishes and votes of local electors on specific issues

Defendant briefs filed by the state noted that "Some people may feel strongly that local jurisdictions should be able to adopt their own liquor laws, or their own divorce laws, or their own field burning laws, but the legislature has determined that all of those subjects should be governed by uniform laws of statewide application."

The state argued that home rule provisions in the constitution were intended to

constitution were intended to provide for and safeguard the right of a political subdivision to legislate on purely local af-fairs germane to the purposes for which the city was incorporated.

orated.

"Providing or denying gays and lesbians statewide protection from discrimination is not a matter which is germane to the purposes for which a subdivision was incorporated," the defendant brief said.

The state noted that HB 3500 establishes substantive state social policy regarding sexual orientation, noting the need for uniform, statewide application without the patch

application without the parch-work quilt approach of pass-ing various local ordinances. Legislators from both sides of the gay rights debate last year were quoted in the state brief, including several who said the longstanding use of pre-emption by the legislature was appropriate in this case. HB 3500 is aimed at local political subdivisions, not at local citizens who have no le-

local citizens who have no legal standing to challenge the new law, said the state brief. "Individuals are not prevented from voting, but jurisdictions are prevented from doing that or enforcing," said the state's motion.

The state also questioned how Mabon could consider himself an injured party, since he lives in the city of Woodburn where no anti-gayrights initiative has been passed and subsequently squashed by HB 3500. That argument also applied to Kane, a resident of the city of Beaverton, and to deParrie, Beaverton, and to deParrie, from Portland. Neet is from Springfield and Graham is from Keizer, communities that have passed "Sons of 9"

ordinances.
The "No Special Rights"
committee — OCA supporters
— argued HB 3500 has a chilling effect on citizen political activity, but the state countered that no local measure tered that no local measure has failed to qualify for local ballot or failed to receive a majority vote in local elections, so people were not chilled to any point that kept them from participating.

Mabon has been pointing to the local ordinance successes as proof the state wants

es as proof the state wants "no special rights" for gays and lesbians. Gay rights advocates have been pointing out that the local campaigns have only been waged in areas that had voted for the statewide measure last year.

OCA Loses Its Appeal (As if It Had Any in the First Place...)

by David Batterson

PORTLAND - The Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA) has lost another Oregon court battle, this time involving its appeal of an October 1992 judgment in favor of openly-lesbian phōtojournalist and Catherine Stauffer, who had sued the OCA for civil bat-

sued the OCA for civil battery.

The Oregon Court of Appeals has "affirmed without opinion" the \$31,000 in damages awarded by a Multnomah County Circuit Court jury in the case involving OCA spokesperson Scott Lively and Stauffer. Stauffer's attorney. Bradley Woodworth of and Stautier. Stautier's attorney, Bradley Woodworth of Portland, said that the OCA could appeal to the Oregon Supreme Court, but he seriously doubts that the state's highest court would hear the appeal

appeal.

Woodworth will be conducting a judgment debtor ex-amination in about six weeks, he said, in which the OCA will be forced to answer ques-tions and reveal under oath the nature of its financial holdings. This is being done, Woodworth said, so that he can obtain the \$31,000 due his

client.
Woodworth said he is also gathering additional informa-tion on the OCA's various en-tities. This is a follow-up to tities. This is a follow-up to the investigation conducted by former assistant attorney general Emily Simon and Certified Public Accountant Nola Wilken in the fall of 1992 ["Possible Racketeering Charges To Be Brought Against OCA," Bay Area Reporter, October 29, 1992]. The openly-gay attorney said that he hopes to "do something with the information" in thing with the information" in the future.

The civil trial involved a

charge against Lively by Stauffer that he used exces Stauffer that he used excessive force in ejecting her from an OCA meeting at the Portland Foursquare Church in October 1991, for which Stauffer had obtained an invitation to attend. When Lively



OCA spokesperson and batterer Scott Lively.

(Photo: Neil Heilpern

recognized Stauffer as being a photographer for Just Out, a Portland gay/lesbian paper, she was allegedly "grabbed, shoved, thrown into a wall, picked up, and dragged out of the church."

At that meeting, the OCA premiered its anti-gay video, Gay Pride?, which contained footage from the 1990 and 1991 San Francisco Gay Pride Parades. Lively testified at the trial that "we didn't want to have people coming in that weren't part of the premier. weren't part of the organiza-tion." Lively claimed he only "reached around, picked her [Stauffer] up, and walked her to the door. But I never threw

to the door. But I never threw her on the ground"
Woodworth said that Stauffer was "delighted" when she heard the news of the unsuccessful appeal by the OCA, but that "she will be even happier when she collects some money from them." Stauffer was unable to continue working as a photographer after the incident, she testified at the trial.

The B.A.R. attempted to reach OCA attorney Bruce McCain for comment, but was unable to do so. The OCA has a policy of not

OCA has a policy of not speaking to the gay/lesbian press, but recently rescinded its policy of not speaking to The Oregonian, the state's largest newspaper.

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Obituaries

David "Dave" Andrew Fredricks

Jan. 31, 1955-Jan. 7, 1994



American Red Cross as a volu American Red Cross as a volunteer for 13 years. Dave took great pride in the job and enjoyed calling service person-nel to inform them of the birth of their children. Along with this responsibil-ity, Dave also assisted people with

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finding shelter during disasters. In San Francisco he volunteerred at Bay Area HIV Support Education Services (BAHSES).

Dave will be remembered by the many people that he came in contact with in San Francisco and through his correspondence with pen pals around the world. In many ways Dave was a child at heart, and enjoyed talking to people and working his crossword puzzles. He is survived by his parents, Andrew and Roselynn Fredricks, sister, Donnette Hutchins; and numerous family members in Iowa.

A special thanks to the staffs of 1594 Market Street (Shanti House), San

A special thanks to the starts of 1994 Market Street (Shanti House), San Francisco, and St. Mary's Hospital for their support and services during Dave's illness.

Dave's illness.

A memorial service and celebration will be held on February 12, 1994, for Dave and other members of Black and White Men TogetherSan Francisco Bay Area (BWMT/SFBA) who have died. The services will be conducted at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller Street, San Francisco (cross street Masonic) at 7 p.m. For more information, call Lee Woo at (510) 261-7922. ▼

Ron Drake January 16, 1994

On January 16, 1994, Ron finally gave up his fight, and passed quietly and peacefully into the next world, a place full of love and laughter, absent all suffering. Ron was a San Francisco native, age 45. He moved to Sacramento in 1989 to live with his friend and companion,

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Kevin A. Schunke. He was the son of Lloyd; preceded in death by stepmother Muriel; brother of Bob Young and Jeff; nephew of Dorothy and Jack, and Beth and Ted; cousin of Nan and Melissa. Ron received very special care and understanding from Dr. Virginia Hawes and her staff, and the staff of Sutter General. Ron leaves many loving friends who offered their love and support, including his co-workers at EDD; we now have another guardian angel watching over us. While we are all in deep sorrow and mourning, his sense of humor will always leave us with a smile.

Ron was an international traveler

Ron was an international traveler, both during his work with World Airways and later as an adventurer. After becoming sick, he traveled worldwide and even went bungee jumping in Australia. During New Year's weekend, he was thrilled to attend Bette Midler and Barbra Streisand performances. A memorial service is scheduled for late February; call (10), 973-964 for details. At Ron's request, his ashes will be scattered in Hawaii and in the Berkshire Mountains, New Hampshire. No flowers, please; Ron wanted remembrances to Hope House Hospice, P.O. Box 2161, Sacramento, CA, or to CAP-PAC, 1008 10th St., Ste. 255, Sacramento, CA. to CA. V

Lowell Robert Norman Oct. 8, 1945-Jan. 20, 1994

Oct. 8, 1945-jan. 20, 1994

Lowell, age 48 of Foster City, passed on January 20 of complications due to AIDS. His close companion, Larry Bell, was at his side, and a number of good friends supported Lowell in his transition.



artistic man who will be missed by all his family and friends. His keen sense of design, color, and space was beautifully expressed through his work as an international tent designer. He encouraged us to laugh and challenged us to view our lives differently through his own unique perspective. To know Lowell was to know how he cared for his friends. We have all been enriched by knowing Lowell and are comforted by our Lowell and are comforted by our

Lowell and are comforted by our memories of him. He is survived by his mother, Helen L. (Norman) Nelson of White Bear Lake, Minn.; three brothers, Douglas of Columbus, Ohio; Gary of White Bear Lake, Minn.; Curis of Omaha, Neb.; their families; many relatives; and a close circle of loving friends. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Names Project Foundation, 310 Townsend, Suite 310, San Francisco, CA 94107.

A memorial service is planned for Thursday, February 3, at 2 p.m. at the Unity Christ Church, 2690 Ocean Avenue (at 19th Avenue), San Francisco.

Gary Allen Emerson Nov. 25, 1953-Jan. 17, 1994

Gary was born in Portland, Oregon to Dorothy and Marvin Emer-son. The family



son. The family moved to San Lorenzo, California, in 1957. He was active in De Molay and graduated from San Lorenzo High School in 1971.

Gary has lived in, loved in and called many places "home" since then, but primarily and finally, it was San Francisco. He was an extremely outgoing and giving person, thus making numerous friends everywhere he went "If I could create the perfect day, I'd

numerous friends everywhere he went.
"If I could create the perfect day, I'd
fill it with blue skies and sunshine, good
friends and fortune, fun times and
laughter... Then I'd give it to you as my
gift ... to celebrate the day you were
born."

born."

Gary wrote the above verse for his mother's 70th birthday, and it basically sums up how he approached life. Gary's passing has created a great void, but hopefully, we will all be comforted by memories of the love and generosity he bestowed unon us all.

Thanks to Kenneth Chapmen for making it possible for Gary to attend the International Mr. Leather contest in

the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago, Illinois, in 1992.
Gary passed away gently and peacefully due to AIDS complications. At the time of his passing, he was surrounded by his friends, Christopher Dube, Paul Johnston, and Rick Godlove.

He was predeceased by his father Mar-vin in 1969, and is survived by his mother Dorothy and her husband George Lee, sisters, Judy Davis, Barbara Newton and Meg Meyers; and brother, David. We will all miss you so very

much. Memorial services were held in San Francisco at the First Congregational Church, 432 Mason Street, on January 24. A private graveside service was held at Chapel of the Chimes in Hayward, California. Donations can be made in Gary's name to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Alan Gibbs ("Babs") 1941-1993



Babs was reas-suring. He had eves that smiled,

eyes that smiled, and he felt safe with a smiled, and he felt safe im and knew he was special. He touch of our lives in elemental ways. He was a man with a strong and loyal conscience. He steadied the world around him with communication that was clear and dry and sparked with his unique down-to-earth humor.

down-to-earth humor:
Music was very important to Babs. He loved the Carters, Wilma Lee and Stoney Cooper, Hans Hotter singing Schubert, and most of all he loved the glamour, the grandeur, the transcendent joy of opera. He was, after all, gay. Babs lived his last months at the Zen Center Hospice, where he received loving care and understanding, and where all his friends were welcome. On his final day, the morning after his body had released his spirit, a circle formed around his bed. Two friends, one on either side, reached out to touch him. The circle was complete.

Roy A. Francis December 20, 1993





US. Statiny and see a mission of the US. State Department. He worked as a travel agent and as occasional columnist and theatre reviewer for the Virgin Islands Daily News. Mr. Francis was a former vice president of the St. Thomas Rotary Club. He was a member of Black and White Men Together and was active in many other social organizations and the musical arts. He was also a fundraiser for the San Francisco Symphony. He will be missed by his many friends and acquaintances. A memorial will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 30, at the SGI Cultural Center, 2450 Th St., San Francisco.

Ronald J. Devine Nov. 8, 1955-Jan. 18, 1994

years of enduring HIV
and Kaposi's,
Ron passed
peacefully at
home on January



Ron was an Air Force brat who grew up in New Mexico, Okinawa, Puerto Rico, New Jersey and Wisconsin.

and Wisconsin.
After working as a waiter and cook at The Fratemity House, one of the hottest bar/restaurant/after-hours establishments in Washington, DC, Ron arrived in SF by way of LA almost 12 years ago.
Ron was an arbiter of beauty at 8th and Howard before entering the California Culinary Academy. He realized a life ambition when he graduated in 1987. The chef at the Half Shell since 1989, Ron had cooked at Sherman's, the Maltese Grill and Squids. He has been honored by Project Open Hand, KQED, honored by Project Open Hand, KQED,

Battered Women's Association, and many others for his contributions. His loving friends, Keith, Joe, Jim, Teresa, Richard and many others across the country, miss and remember his quiet charm and generosity. David Boyd, his companion during 18 years of travel through life as well as Wisconsin, Washington and California, misses his loving and comforting presence. Ron is survived by his parents, Richard and Arliss Devine of Holmen, Wis, and Alamogordo, NM; by his brothers, Thomas, Robert, James and Douglas; and by the nieces and nephews he adored.

nephews he adored.
Friends will unite Sunday, January
30, at 1 p.m. at Land's End (dirt parking lot above Sutro ruins) to bid farewalt
to The Little Chef, returning afterwards
to The Half Shell for refreshments. ▼

Randell Scott Ford Nov. 1, 1949-Dec. 23, 1993



by his close friends; his beloved lover, Ken: brother, Grant; sister, Debra;

brother, Grant; sister, Debra; closest friend, Mary, the girls from the Hog farm: Jahanara, Sindi, Lois; and his friends, Tim, Rick, John-Scott and David. He will be missed by all. As a good friend, he would always stand behind whatever endeavor that I decided to do, and like a best friend, he would tell even me the things that I did not want to hear, like when I was doing something stupid. And I took his advice and his opinion and used it to get a different

stupid. And I took his advice and his opinion and used it to get a different aspect of the problem. Thanks MO, you mellowed me out. Sincerely, your friend always — Ross.

There will be a service around February 19 or 26, 1994, to be announced. Please call the following numbers for information or if you need to talk: 255-8214 or 626-9663. ▼

Jerry Davis July 11, 1948-Jan. 9, 1994



Jerry was born in Philadelphia on July 11, 1948. He graduated from Temple University (BA, 1970) and Villa-

from Temple University (BA, 1970) and Villanova University Law School (JD, 1973). In 1973, Jerry moved to Washington, DC, where he was an attorney for the US. Department of Labor, Jerry helped organize the first National AIDS Vigil in October 1983. From 1988 to 1990, he was a board member of the AIDS Foundation of the Whitman-Walker Clinic In 1990, Jerry moved to San Francisco, where he worked at the Human Rights Commission until his retirement in 1992. He was principal author of "Approaching 2000 — Meeting the Challenges to San Francisco's Families," the report which led to legislation providing health benefits for domestic partners of city employees. Jerry worked on the election campaigns of Roberta Achtenberg and Art Agnos, and was assistant to the political communications director of Northern California for the Clinton-Gore campaign. In 1991 he was appointed to the board of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP) and was co-chair of the ALRP board from 1992 until his death. Jerry's life was full of chutzpah and humor, and he will be dearly missed by his sister, Michele, and by an extended family of friends, including John Stansell, Bruce Williams, Janet Seldon, Rob Towle, Joyce Newstat, Dyan Dreisbach, Bruce Cohen, Ed Avant and Arthur Marcus. Jerry's ashes will be scattered in San Francisco Bay, Philadelphia, and Sydney Harbour, Australia. ▼

Obituary Policy

to an unfortunately large number of ries, the Bay Area Reporter has been to change its obtituary policy, nust now restrict obits to 200 words, lacese, no poetry. We reserve the right for style, clarity, grammar, and taste, e name of person on back of photo. include a stamped envelope to have too treturned, please write the per-name on the inside of the envelope

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BAY AREA REPORTER

JANUARY 27, 1994

PAGE 22



ay on January 12 in his parents' home in Fairfax, Calif. His passing was due to complications from AIDS.

from AIDS.
Tim was born
and grew up in
Fairfax. In 1975,
drawn by its
beauty and tranquility, Tim moved to Hawaii,
where he worked as a room steward for
American Hawaii Cruise Lines. He
returned to San Francisco in 1985 and
became successful running his own
cleaning service.

became succession running insown cleaning service.

In Tim's quest for spiritual fulfillment, he became active in the church of The Radiant Light Ministries. By this time, Tim had also made a decision to live his life clean and free of drugs and

alcohol.

In 1990, he met and moved with his husband, Scott, to Sacramento and lived happily ever after.

Tim is survived by his parents, Robert and Dorothy Davidson; his grandmother, Gertrude Eberitzsch; his brothers, Larry, Ken, Jeff and Michael; his nicees, Katie and Alexa; and his lever companies and best friend Scott. lover, companion and best friend, Scott

Tim had so much love in his heart for

Tim had so much love in his heart for everyone, and he will be greatly missed by his family and everyone who had the opportunity to get to know him.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 5, at St. Rita's Church Parish Hall, 2100 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. (at Marinda Dr.), Fairfax, CA. Car pooling from SF will be available. For info, contact David Blood at 64-0544.

Donations may be made in Tim's name to The Hospice of Marin or to your favorite AIDS charity.

Tim, I love you forever. See you later — Scott. ▼

Jerry Houston

Dec. 10, 1955-Jan. 17, 1994



spent the rest of his childhood in

Tekamah, Nebraska, graduating from high school in 1974.
He attended college at New College, Sarasota, Florida, during the 1970s, studying art history and architecture. Jerry moved to San Francisco in 1982. Jerry divided his work life between running an antiques busines in San Anselmo, California, and pursuing his interest in many forms of artistic expression, especially the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and Arts and Crafts furniture and pottery, Jerry spent long Lioyd Wright and Arts and Crafts fur-niture and pottery. Jerry spent long hours assisting in the production of the In the Realm of Ideas exhibition of the Marin County Civic Center's archives of Wright material and in doing archival work for the offices of Aaron Green in the city.

work for the offices of Aaron Green in the city.

Jerry volunteered his time and energy for years to many 12-step programs and to Shanti Project, serving as a practical support volunteer for several clients and eventually as a coordinator/facilitator of training workshops.

During his years in the city, Jerry developed a wide network of friends who relied on his warmth and spirit and loved his irrepressible wit. He is survived by family in Nebraska and California.

Dennis Paul Green (aka Erica)

Aug. 6, 1953-Dec. 20, 1993

Our friend Dennis' suffering came to an end among his friends and former co-work-ers at Coming Home Hospice, where he had been both an employee and a olunteer. He had fought

the cure" courageously and wholeheartedly for over four years.
Dennis is survived by his father and stepmother, Donald and Virginia Green; his brother, Bill; and sisters, Cathy and Denise.

He was born in Newport, R.I., and grew up in Bremerton, Wash. On moving to San Francisco, he went to work for the P.S. restaurant, where he was trained as a chef. From there he moved to the Galleon, where he cooked until his health forced him to retire four

years ago.

After that he worked part-time at the hospice and, for the last three years, was a dedicated volunteer at the Project Open Hand Food Bank, With a heart of cold and a wright he in the last of the second series and series are series and series are series and series and series and series and series are series and series are series and series and series are series and series are series and series are series and series are series gold and a twinkle in his eye, he was an inspiration to many of us. His positive attitude and love of others touched us

attitude and love of others touched us all. He will be sorely missed. One of the biggest thrills of his life was performing in Men Behind Bars VI. Dennis requested that there be no funeral service, but there will be a party in his honor at Uncle Bert's Place, 4086 l8th Street, on Thursday, February 3, at 5 p.m.

at 5 p.m.
All who knew him are encouraged to join us in farewell. ▼

Max J. Rochln July 5, 1960-Jan. 22, 1994

Max was born in Brooklyn on July 5, an appropriate date for a power-

date for a power-ful, warm and loving person. He grew up and lived in an assort-ment of locales, including Napa, Atlanta, Los Angeles, London and Zurich. Max's career was in the com-programmer and

puter industry as a program quality control engineer and manager for Ashton-Tate, Digital Equipment and

for Ashton-Tate, Digital Equipment and Gupta Corporation. In the last several years, he learned the love of scuba diving and motorcycling.

Max passed away at his residence in San Francisco. He is survived by his lover and partner, Dwayne Treat of San Francisco; his parents, Sandra and Eli Rochlin of Harmon Cove, N.J.; brother, Stephen of Gainesville, Fla; brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Julie of Ocala, Fla; and many close and special friends worldwide.

Max understood life and was happy with his part in the world. He treated

wax understood life and was happy with his part in the world. He treated everyone around him with love and a great amount of respect and honesty. Max had a loving and childlike nature that appealed to all.

Richard W. Callahan

Jan. 20, 1959-Jan. 18, 1994



end came peace-fully, with family fully, with family members at his side. Born and raised in Roches-ter, New York, Rick lived in Chicago for a number of years before making

San Francisco his home in 1989.

San Francisco his home in 1989.

His many passions included music and architecture. These led to studies at Northwestern University and the University of Illinois. While in the school of architecture at U of I, Richard studied abroad.

An accomplished pianist and clarinet virtuoso, Rick also gave freely of his time to volunteer organizations. Rick's skills in meeting new persons and making them feel at ease helped him with his responsibilities at Under One Roof. In Chicago he was active with the Howard Brown Clinic and Good Shepherd MCC.

Rick is survived by his mother, three brothers, and his companion, Daniel James.

James.

A memorial service was held at MCC
San Francisco on January 22 for family
and close friends. ▼

John Michael Bodtker (aka John the Plumber)

Dec. 23, 1959-Jan. 20, 1994



Dec. 23, 1959–Jan. 20, 1994

Born in Albany, Oregon, but destined for the bright lights of Portland, John was an entertainer looking for a stage. Alas, Portland was not big enough. John then moved to Hawaii, becoming the island's hospitality hostess, reigning for

Accepting the challenge of AIDS, he moved to San Francisco in 1990, and

National News

Mabon Starts Moving In Next Door

CARSON CITY — Lon Mabon, leader of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, filed an anti-gay initiative in Nevada, Tuesday, January 25. While Tuesday, January 25. While filing the initiative Mabon complained that critics who characterize him and his followers as intolerant are "misinformed." The initiative, similar to

The initiative, similar to Colorado's Amendment 2, will be circulated by a newly formed group, the Nevada Citizens Alliance, and will be headed by Daisy Stanley of Reno. Proponents will need just 51,000 signatures to qualify the initiative for the November ballot. Mabon predicts success of the initiative dicts success of the initiative because Nevada, despite its round-the-clock lifestyle, is "conservative and doesn't have a large homosexual com-



OCA founder Lon Mabon

munity."

When word of the proposed initiative filing reached
Nevada Governor Bob Miller
last week he warned against "its message of intolerance and discrimination." Mabon

responded that Miller's pronouncement was "not an informed statement," accused the Governor of "responding in a political manner," and warned that Miller "will ultimately pay the price for doing so."

Nevada gay rights activists promise an all-out campaign to battle the initiative and some business leaders have expressed fear that it could result in a boycott of Nevada's tourist-dependent economy. Mabon, apparently ready for that eventuality, stated he for that eventuality, stated he is working to reverse any po-tential economic damage by encouraging supporters of these initiatives in other states to take vacations in Nevada.

[For more on Mabon and the activities of his Oregon Citizens' Alliance, see stories on pages 20-21.]

Teachers

(Continued from page 14)

other existing domestic partners plans without relying on ners plans without relying on us to do their homework for them. In the real world of campus politics, however, we provided both management and union negotiators with virtually all the dollars and cents data, legal definitions, and insurance information necessary to make a reasoned, rational, and well-informed rational, and well-informed decision. Here again, our professional expertise as trained scholars, researchers, and writers turned out to be a powerful asset. Virtually all institutions who have adopted domestic partners benefits have found the costs to be far lower than feared.

Rule Five: Fighting for your rights can be fun.

Despite some anxious mo-ments (such as the fist pounding faculty union confronta-tion described above) most of the work we did together was downright fun. Several facul-ty members so closeted that I never even suspected they were "family" came out to me for the first time — always a joyous occasion. At potluck organizing events sponsored

amazed his friends as well as the medical community with his determination to survive.

The popular toy that everyone's enjoyed, he touched the lives of all he met.

John is survived by his father, Bill; sisters, Kathy and Nancy, friends too numerous to mention; and his loving cat. Ludio.

P. Thomas Cady April 4, 1946-Jan. 21, 1994

P. Thomas Cady died at home in Pleasant Hill, Calif., on Friday, January 21, 1994, at age 47 of AIDS complica-

Having moved from Cincinnati to San Francisco in 1979, Mr. Cady serv-ed as an officer with the San Francisco Police Department from 1981 until his

Police Department from 1981 until his recent retirement from active service because of his AIDS disability. Former law-enforcement duties included service as chief of police in Walton, Kentucky, Earlier, he served two years with the U.S. Air Force.

He is survived by his life partner, Rodney Meyers, his son, his father, two brothers; and two sisters.

Friends are invited to attend a memorial mass to be celebrated Friday, January 28, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 860 Oak Grove Road, Concord, CA.

Memorial donations to your favorite charity are preferred. ▼

cat, Lydia. We'll miss you, honey! ▼

by our gay and lesbian staff association, I also met many of the partners of my col-leagues for the first time, and leagues for the first time, and they met mine. Imagine being a married heterosexual colleague in similar circumstances, unable to introduce your spouse to friends and colleagues for years — in some cases even decades. The same situation now seems equally unthinkable for our gay and leshian employees. lesbian employees

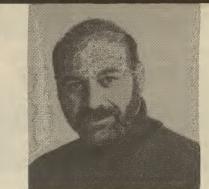
Rule Six: Humor helps.

Sometimes situations that might seem threatening turn out to be downright funny. As the treasurer of our gay and lesbian staff association

for example, I had the duty of opening a checking account for our group at the local bank branch. When the pleasantly non-homophobic bank officer phoned the IRS to get a tax-ID number for our organization (required by federal law when opening a business account), I found myself suddenly asked to spell the word "lesbian" by the IRS phone clerk on the other end of the line. In full hearing of most of the bank staff and patrons in lovely Los Altos, I intoned, "Yes, ma'am, that's spelled L'E-S-B-I-A-N."

No, it wasn't "immoral, un-

No, it wasn't "immoral, unethical, or illegal." But it sure was fun. ▼



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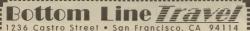
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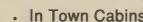
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National News

Activist Moves in Government Circles, Assists AIDS Task Force

by Jim Provenzano

At the press conference announcing the Presidential Task Force on AIDS Drug Development in November 1993, Health & Human Services Director Donna Shalala cited the group's "clear and critical" mission: "to identify, and remove, any barriers or and remove, any barriers or obstacles to developing effec-tive treatments" in the fight against AIDS.

against AIDS.

And while many were enthused by the directness of her speech, three months later the members of that proposed Task Force have not yet been chosen. AIDS "Czar" Kristine Gebbie, who will also preside over the Task Force, recently stated at a medical conference that Clinton's campaign promise of a medical conference that Clinton's campaign promise of a "Manhattan Project" approach would not be implemented; instead, the administration would consider a "smaller core research approach."

With such diminished goals so bluntly stated, will the Task Force remove obstacles — or will it become one in itself?

"Realistically, we should

itself?

"Realistically, we should realize this is not gonna do anything," says one irate AIDS activist, Wayne Turner of ACT UP Washington. "It's not gonna speed up the drug approval. At Gebbie's low level, where do you think her power is? This is so far down the line that we're going backwards."

"The Task Force is not ad-

backwards?"
"The Task Force is not adequate," agreed ACT UP
New York's Denny Lee. "It
emphasizes corporate gain
over public health concerns.
The fact that there are corporate activities is a law condict.

The fact that there are corporate entities is a huge conflict of interest."

Victor Zonona, press representative for Health & Human Services, disagrees. "Anybody could be said to have a conflict of interest," he told the B.A.R. "Activists can have a conflict of interest. We need them as part of the light."

nave a conflict of interest. We need them as part of the fight to make drugs available."

It is true that activists are among the nominees for the panel, and that they are hardly immune from criticism.
Turner, for one, dismisses
them as "careerists hot for the

One person who embodies several aspects of the debate is Moises D'Agosto: formerly a prominent member of ACT UP New York during its heyday, D'Agosto is one of many "think tank" activists who now work in Washington.

now work in Washington.
Born in San Juan, Puerto
Rico, D'Agosto came to New
York in 1988, already informed about ACT UP's burgeoning tactics. "I got tested
in Puerto Rico," he told the
B.A.R. "I found out I was
positive. For two years I was
trying to get some kind of positive. For two years I was trying to get some kind of care: this was 1986. Then I decided to go to the states to get some kind of care, while going to graduate school, get a fellowship and get the care I needed. Then I got connected to ACT UP."

His attendance and involvement led to the develop-

volvement led to the develop-ment of the Latino Caucus of ACT UP, started by gay Lati-nos Joe Franco, Robert Garcia

(both of whom have since died of AIDS), Robert Vasquez, and D'Agosto, among others. The group spent months translating all ACT UP documents into Spanish and developing persecutive policy statements. Spanish and developing persuasive policy statements with a series of educational outreach efforts, to inform community members, PWAs, and health care workers — in Spanish — about ways to politicize the problems of health care and treatment.

The height of D'Agosto's activism came when he re-

activism came when he re-turned to Puerto Rico in 1991 as part of an entourage of protesters who berated then-Secretary of Health & Hu-man Services Louis Sullivan, man Services Louis Sullivan, along with the junket of National AIDS Commission members. They targeted San Juan's Catholic Church for censoring AIDS information, and helped get the fledgling ACT UP Puerto Rico on its legs (the group has since disbanded). "It went through the same process that all ACT UPs in the states went," D'Agosto said: Crash, burnout, and die by subcommittee.

D'Agosto said: Crash, burn-out, and die by subcommittee. But while acknowledging he is shedding his street ac-tivism for a time, D'Agosto also said he hasn't given up the idea of combining "in the door" tactics with "screaming in the street" theatrics. As a new member of the National Minority AIDS Council, which he joined in June, D'Agosto was called upon to help organize Kristine Gebbie and Donna Shalala's Task Force on AIDS, which will fo-cus primarily on drug devel Force on AIDS, which will fo-cus primarily on drug devel-opment. D'Agosto said he hopes his experience will make him a potential Task Force member as well, and prevent the Task Force from becoming, to use Gebbie's own term, a "bureaucratic space-filler."
D'Agosto spoke with the

page-filler. D'Agosto spoke with the Bay Area Reporter about the help the Task Force can potentially provide the AIDS community, as well as its myriad potential conflicts.

Bay Area Reporter: What is it about NMAC that got you to leave New York and move to Washington, D.C.?

Moises D'Agosto: The National Minority AIDS Council tional Minority AID'S Council is an organization that has a membership of more than 400 minority CBOs (Community-Based Organizations). I came here to create a treatment and research advocacy program, which they didn't have before. NMAC provides technical assistance to minority. before. NMAC provides technical assistance to minority CBOs, to help them develop programs, to help them raise money. That's one component, as well as public policy and advocacy. Mostly NMAC has been involved in prevention and Ryan White Care funds.

One of the things about Ryan White is that Shalala said the funds were completely funded. Has this happened?

It has to go through the whole process of the presi-dent submitting a budget, and the Appropriations Commit-tee, and then the Congress de-



National Minority AIDS Councilmember Moises D'Agosto.

Has that changed? Do you see any significant change in the funding?

Now we're starting the process for fiscal year '95. It looks like this year is gonna be very tight. The increases are okay, but they're not that significant.

How are people of color disproportionately affected by AIDS?

It's a matter of lack of resources, also for political rea-sons. Through all these years, sons. Through all these years, working through the system, not being in ACT UP, I have seen how a lot of educational work in our communities doesn't go through because of funding. If these CBOs lack the money to develop programs, the education for those communities is not gonna happen. Plus, there are cultural differences, and big organizations that monopolize the money also monopolize the money also monopolize the programs, which are usu-ally based in white communi-ties. They try to develop pro-grams in our communities, taking away the funding that taking away the funding that we need, when we can do it more effectively with our people. So, it's a combination of those things. The education that is going to our communities is not culturally appropriate. But also, we're lacking resources, from the private and public sector.

Jubic sector.

It's also a matter of empowerment in our communities and within our CBOs that provide services. One of the disturbing things is seeing the money go to big white organizations because supposedly they have the expertise to do some service in disadvan-taged communities, but then the funders assume they have the expertise, and they don't let us develop that leadership and expertise. If we don't have that money, we can't do

Did you feel disillusioned by ACT UP towards the end of your involvement?

Well, yeah, let me tell you why. I tried to do my best within the infrastructure of ACT UP, because I do believe in the need for direct action. We grew up in ACT UP. But one of the concerns that I had was that as a person of

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

color, for me it's very important to do work that effects my community. It's not because of any separatism, but because I think we need to have leadership in our community, and start getting things done. I felt like ACT UP was not giving the space, nor the political infrastructure to do that.

A lot of the leaders in our communities were looking at ACT UP in a skeptical way. Bonds of trust, in communities of color, were not very well established. Also, I got kind of frustrated with some people that were not giving serious thought about where the movement is going. It was an evolution in the movement, and there has to be an evolution in the strategies that we take. Sometimes I felt like a lot of people were being radical just because they needed to be radical.

Did the progress seem to upset people who wanted to remain outsiders? Has there been progress now that people like yourself are "at the table?"

I think so, since there is more access for community people to be a part of the process, I do believe that's positive. But I also believe that doesn't invalidate the fact that we also need the direct action aspect. I don't see it as one way or another. We should have people in the system, and have people screaming outside, too, and strategize togeth-



Moises D'Agosto participates in the Hands Across the Capitol demo during last April's March on Washington.

Photo: Rick Gerharter

er. It's not about "You're wearing a tie now; you're an enemy," or "You've changed your beliefs," or "You're not effective any more."

How will the new Task Force differ from the Presidential Commissions, which although ignored by both President Reagan and Bush, made strong recommendations?

Those recommendations haven't been implemented. The Task Force is going to be specifically related to drug development. Probably in one way or another the Task Force could use recommendations developed by the commission, but this is specifically targeting the barriers in drug development, the Ryan White stuff.

One of the claims of the Clinton administration is that the requirements to claim disability will be easier under the health care plan revisions. How do you think this will effect immigrants with HIV, and immigrants who get HIV and want health care?

It's gonna be a big fight for all of us, because even the health care reform plan says that they won't provide services to immigrants, even though they won't deny it. It's like a game. They're saying one thing, but if you work the system, then maybe. At this point, there is still not a clear agenda what the strategy will be.

Are the selections for the Task Force going to be a balance of people from the pharmaceutical, academic, and medical fields, and activists and people directly involved in services?

The purpose of the Task Force is to put together people from the industry, people from the government, and people living, supposedly, with HIV, to coordinate and identify the barriers and give recommendations about how we can do better in drug development. I think that's the value of the Task Force. It's the first time that the government made an effort to have some coordinations. There is another group called the ICC, the Inter-Company Collaboration. Fifteen pharmaceutical companies decided to get together and create this entity that is going to focus on creating and coordinating drug development among those companies that are making anti-retroviral drugs. It's going to focus on combination therapies. The idea of the Task Force came from the ICC. They'll design trials for drug combinations of anti-retrovirals. They will design the trials together. At some phase of the clinical trial process, they will provide drugs to each other and develop the drugs together.

It seems difficult when the basic purpose of any large company is to make money.

Exactly: they're in competition.

It has the capacity for some conflicts of interest.

The thing about the Task Force is it will not just be about anti-retrovirals. It's about the whole spectrum of HIV; opportunistic infections drug development, etc.

When will the Task Force get started?

It should be formed by the end of this month. There was a call for nominations. They have a short list now from 200 nominations. They now have a list of 30 people. By the end of this month, Donna Shalala will decide who will be on it. I was part of one of the organizations that supported it. I was also nominated, but we still don't know.

also hollimized, but we still don't know.

People called me and asked, "Do you think this is gonna be just another Task Force?" I think that it all depends on who is getting into the Task Force and what kind of commitment the people selected will have to make it work. One of the things that bothers me sometimes with this administration is that we can get them to do things; the decision about the whole restructuring of the Office of AIDS Research, activists pushed for that, it came into place, but the implementation is what has been a problem.

Will the Task Force have the power to make recommendations?

One of the things that made me kind of positive about it was that the Task Force recommendations go directly to Shalala, and Shalala goes directly to the president. There is a kind of source of authority and power that can implement those recommendations. But it's like everything else in the government. We're not going to know how functional it's going to be until it's in place. It all depends on who gets in.

Health & Community

AIDS Family Project Support for relatives, lovers, friends of PWAs & HIVers. Operation Concern. 626-7000.

BACW (Bay Are Career Women) "How to Succeed in Business and Personal Life Without Acting Like Men," a workshop facilitated by Nicole Schapiro. Jan. 30, 10am-2pm. \$20-25. 495-5393.

Drawing Marathon Male figure drawing for men and women, \$10, 1-5pm, Jan. 29, Hosted by Mark I. Chester. 621-6294.

HIV Network Personal case management program for people living with HIV & AIDS in Napa County. (707) 224-5496.

HIV Support Workshops New groups forming, led by Neil Kaminsky at Operation Concern. Emotional numbness, Feb. 2. Recently diagnosed, Feb. 9. Free. 677-7993.

Homophobia, a Health Hazard Dr. Kate O'Hanlon, women's health specialist & gay activist, speaks about this problem. Jan. 30, 10:30am, Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, Brewster at Lowell sts., Redwood City.

Impact: A Workshop for Managing HIV Eight Monday evening workshops on varied topics. Meets in Berkeley. (510) 548-9854.

Lambda Youth Group Support group for les/bi/gay & questioning youth up to age 23. Confidential. Weekly meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. (510) 887-0566.

Letting Go of the Past Carol Janes leads a workshop on emotional clearing work. Feb. 1, 7pm. amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness. 775-0227.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group volunteers sought to provide emotional support and help with office duties. 863-1581.

Pacing Ourselves Eight-week support group for health care professionals, Tuesday eves. Kairos Support for Caregivers. 861-0877.

PLUS (Positive Living for Us) Weekend workshops in health care, recovery, benefits, safer sex, and many more topics concerning HIV. Feb. 4-6. Free, but limited to 75 people. Volunteers needed. 403-3800.

Project Inform Town Meeting Overview of HIV disease. Feb. 2, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 558-9051.

Southern Alameda County Gays Political/social group forming for les/bi/gays in Fremont, Hayward, San Leandro areas. Meets Feb. 2. (510) 264-0340.

Veterans With HIV Support and social group at Oakland VA Clinic, (510) 273-7331,

Women's HIV Clinic 12:30-4;30pm every second & fourth Monday. San Mateo County AIDS Program. 573-2385.

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How to Write an Obit

by Michael C. Botkin

A lthough, like many gay men, I've been an avid "obituary cruiser" since the AIDS epidemic began, I never had the opportunity to write one before last year. It was more difficult than I'd thought, despite a number of advantages I had.

I had.

For one thing, the job was assigned to me by the subject while he was still alive. Andy's family, as we gathered by his deathbed in his final weeks, naturally split up the hospice tasks according to profession. Thus his sister Deb, a nurse, managed his considerable pharmacopoeia; my partner, a social worker. my partner, a social worker, helped fill out his disability forms and dealt with the insurer (the ugliest task of all!); I, a psychotherapist and journalist, analyzed dreams, read

him the paper, and composed the obituary.

Andy didn't have any strong desires regarding his obit, other than making sure that AIDS was listed frankly and plainly as the cause of death. We didn't discuss de-tails beyond that; he seemed content to delegate the morbid task to me.

The day after his death, I

The day after his death, I borrowed my sister's portable PC and began composing. Assembling those disability papers had documented his occupational history pretty well, plus I had all his obsessively well-kept files at my disposal. His sisters were present to fill me in on his early history, and his colleagues from work and his colleagues from work

were at hand to explain his considerable impact on their profession.

profession.

Drawing on all these elements, I got the piece together in time for Andy's memorial service at the end of the week, where it was printed in the program — the obit's only verbatim publication, as it turned out. The local mainstream dailies made an interesting hash of the elegant stream datiles made an interesting hash of the elegant prose I'd sent them. In particular they seemed to have problems dealing with his cause of death, my references to his "mentor" and, of course, his survivors.

Too intense

My original began: "Andrew Francis Leo, Director of Design at the Chicago Historical Society, died on March 9 of AIDS-related illness. He spent his last days in his home, which he'd extensively renovated and rebuilt over the past decade, surrounded by his loved ones." This, I suppose, was too sappy for the dailies. The Chicago Sun Times simply reported that "Mr. Leo died Tuesday in his North Side home of an AIDS-related illness." The somewhat classier Chicago Tribune (for comparison purposbune (for comparison purposes, consider the Trib the equivalent of the SF Examiner and the Sun Times the counterpart of the SF Chronicle — I hope this contrast of fends everyone involved) phrased it: "Mr. Leo died Tuesday of complications from AIDS in his North Side home."



Both papers were disinterested in the "loved ones" and in Andy's activities as a rehabber, but they did feel it was important to mention that his home was on "the North Side." This, I suspect, was intended as mainstream code for "lived in Chicago's gay ghetto."

There's just no way an HIVer can count on an honest and frank obituary these days.

Both, apparently, also felt a need to quibble about the cause of death. It wasn't "an" AIDS-related illness, as per

cause of deart. It wasn't an AIDS-related illness, as per the Times; it was several of them at once. Nor was it "complications" as cited by the Trib; it was AIDS, AIDS, AIDS pure and simple, but this was just too blunt for them and they had to waffle on it at least a little.

They had even more trouble with my description of his relationship with his mentor. My original read: "He worked as a draftsman and on the restoration of Chicago's historic Monadnock Building, but his true apprenticeship was served under the tutelage of A. James Speyer, Curator of A. James Speyer, Curator at the Art Institute of Chicago. Speyer was Andy's mentor during his tenure as an Installation Architect at the AIC, and helped him develop his interest and skill are now. his interest and skills as a mu

seum designer."

The *Times* reworded this:
"He was an installation assisthe was an installation assistant at the Art Institute of Chicago, working under A. James Speyer." The *Trib* recast it as: "He joined the AIC as an installation assistant." There he served an appren-There he served an apprenticeship in museum design [not the case: they took my phrase too literally] while working closely with A. James Speyer." Neither paper could bring themselves to print the definitive word "mentor," although the Trib at least hinted at the relationship thus implied. ship thus implied.

Speyer, famous scion of one of Chicago's most promi-nent philanthropic families, had died the year before of lymphoma. His homosexualilymphoma. His homosexuality was an open secret, but simply not the sort of the thing mainstream dailies are wont to report. Did they think I was implying that Andy and Speyer were lovers? (They weren't, but so what if they had been?) Or was the relationship implied by "mentor" simply too iny "mentor" simply too in-tense a form of male bonding for them to mention in an AIDS obituary? For whatever reason, both papers glossed over this relationship — the most important in Andy's life

and minimized it as much

Deliberately vague

This trend was even more obvious in the telltale "survivors" section that concludes most obituaries. My original read: "Andy is survived by his sisters Nancy B., Judy P., and Debra C; by his niece Mari B.; and by his longtime companions Michael Botkin and

Steve F." This was, essentially, a roster of those of us gathered at his deathbed in the fi-

and days, mentioned as "the loved ones" at the very beginning of the obit.

Naturally, neither paper was going to print this as I wrote it. The *Times*, true to its reactionary nature, simply eliminated the queers, thus: "Survivors include three sisters, Nanc yell, Judy P. and Debra C" The *Trib*, quirkily, lumped the sisters together, thereby highlighting Steve thereby highlighting Steve and me: "He is survived by three sisters and two long-time companions, Michael Botkin and Steve F." This, I thought, made it sound like thought, made it sound like we were in some strange sort of three-way relationship (not the case, at least not sexually), or that Steve and I had both had romantic relationships with him in the past (also not the case). Andy's niece, Mari, was completely ignored by both papers. both papers.

Commentary

Now, "longtime companion" is a deliberately vague term. It is the only description of gay male relationships, I believe, that was coined specifically for use in obituaries. When mainstream dailies ies. When mainstream dailies employ it, they usually mean it to be taken as "lover" or spouse, while they avoid making any definite statement about the exact nature of the relationship. Sex they can understand (they think), even if they can't bring themselves to mention it in print but nonmention it in print, but non-sexual intimacy between gay men perplexes them.

men perplexes them.

The complexities of gay
"family-of-choice" structure
are simply beyond the ken of
those editors, a mystery they
cannot grasp and, frankly,
would rather not think about.

My attempts to describe My attempts to describe Steve's and my relationship with Andy — and his relation-ship with Speyer — were mis-understood, and either ig-nored or distorted by the

dailies.

If you're writing an AIDS obituary for mainstream paobituary for mainstream pa-pers, I suggest you resign yourself to this sort of censor-ship and plan accordingly. Given the conservative nature of our nation's media and so-ciety's queasiness about ho-mosexuality, death and AIDS, there's just no way an HIVer can count on an honest and frank obituary these days. frank obituary these days. Some, no doubt, prefer it this way, but to me it seems a shame that people take offense at our "lifestyle" even after we're dead.

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the 800 number that had been established only the day before, a national E-mail link was to be in place before this article hits print, and the first

"action" was agreed upon.
"Queers Across America"
has the ambitious goal of staging coordinated news conferences on the same day, in the legislature buildings of every one of the fifty state capitals. The day chosen is February 14, less than a month away.
Gay and Lesbian Americans admits the goal is a challenging one, and while they may well fall short of their goal, the effort seems worthy.

Gay and Lesbian Americans

Gay and Lesbian Americans intends for each news conference to focus on a local or state gay issue, such as the gay-specific sodomy law in Arkansas or demanding recognition of gay marriages in Hawaii. Their purpose is educational and organizational as much as political.

"We have come together, activists from the lesbian, gay,

bisexual, and transgender communities, because we cannot sit still any longer," said respected New York activist Ann Northrop in opening the news conference. "We cannot settle for passive leadership in Washington. We want to link activists around the coun-

Ink activists around the country to make a difference."

Members will vote to chose both leaders and issue priorities at local, regional, and federal levels.

Meet the leaders

The four interim leaders of Gay and Lesbian Americans will serve in a volunteer capacity in positions that will eventually become elective,

"The time for the isolated. fearful, powerless homosexual is over. It is done. Now. John Carl Lewis, Gay and Lesbian Americans.

Stephen Reichert is Na-tional Coordinator. He has worked locally in Washing-

worked locally in Washington, D.C. with Queer Nation and in achieving repeal of the local sociomy statute.

He chastised the existing national organizations for locking most members of the community out of the decision-making process and failing to empower grassroots acing to empower grassroots activists. The goal of Gay and Lesbian Americans will be to "Challenge and empower peo-ple to speak for themselves, to have a voice in their own

liberation.
Reichert outlined the two Reichert outlined the two national planks of the group: to press for a federal gay and lesbian civil rights bill and to press for an intense "Manhatan-style" Project to find a cure for AIDS. Local priorities will be sodomy repeal and the creation of state and local civil rights protection. Chapters will be encouraged. Chapters will be encouraged

to adopt other issues as locally appropriate.

Mickey Wheatley is Secretary/Treasurer. He was formerly an attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and now resides in Washington.

He spoke to the structure of the organization, modeled upon that used by the National Organization for Women (NOW). He described it as "from the bottom up, giving "from the bottom up, giving the secretary of the se "from the bottom up, giving our people control of their own civil rights struggle for the first time, ... by majority vote." All levels of leadership will be elected by their Gay and Lesbian Americans mem

bers.
To Wheatley, "It will create a balance of power be-tween the national groups and the individual chapters by setting up platform and strategy guidelines at the na-tional level" but will also allow plenty of room for local priorities, strategies, and sharing of resources

Kim Edwards hails from East Orange, New Jersey. She has participated in ACT UP/New York and worked on gaining passage of gay and lesbian civil rights protection in New Jersey. She will head up outreach and membership coordination. coordination.

Her goal is to embrace the diversity of the gay and lesbian community in all of its aspects, she said, welcoming both those who are currently members of other national groups and those "who feel disenfranchised and left out of gay and lesbian organiza-tions"

Edwards held out a hand to straight Americans, such as members of the NAACP, "who believe in civil liberties for other individuals. Unless all of us have freedom, none of us have freedom and civil

liberties."
John Carl Lewis is communications coordinator. A self-described "reluctant activist," he is a product of Harvard Di-vinity School and works in vinity School and works in the Clinton Administration.

Gay and Lesbian Americans'

Statement of Purpose

"Gay and Lesbian Americans is a diverse, nonpartisan coalition of grassroots advocates committed to civil rights for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people and a cure for AIDS.
"Through community-based chapters, Gay and Lesbian

Americans will foster grassroots advocacy to act locally, regionally, and nationally.

"As a results-oriented organization we seek an end to gov-

ernmental discrimination against citizens based on sexual orientation.

"Our mission includes enactment of civil rights legislation, repeal of sodomy laws, and funding and research of gay and lesbian health issues.

"To accomplish our mission, Gay and Lesbian Americans will work to gain support of Congress, the President, governors, state legislators, mayors, city councils, and the public

lic. "Strategies include lobbying, advertising, and direct ac

tion.

"We are aggressive and uncompromising in advocating full and equal civil rights for gays and lesbians and for recognition of our lives.

"Gay and Lesbian Americans exist to empower its members. Through a democratic process Gay and Lesbian American members elect Gay and Lesbian American officials to determine its platform.

determine its platform.

"We are an independent organization and as such, Gay and Lesbian American Sharing and Lesbian Americans has no political party affiliation and does not make financial contributions to politicians. We evaluate political candidates by their measurable accomplish-

ments on gay and lesbian civil rights issues, not on their rhetoric and promises." ▼

ernmental discrimination against citizens based on sex

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182844

The following person is doing business as URBAN REMOVAL, 75 Gough St. #8, San Francisco, CA 94102: KENNETH J. WEINER, 75 Gough St. #8, San Francis-co, CA 94102.

The statement was filed by the Country Clark

CRENET WHILE STATEMENT STATEME

JANUARY 27, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 1994. L-182844

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182793

The following person is doing business as PIANOS TO RENT, 2075 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114: BEVERILY J. OLSON, 14869 Midland Rd., San Leandro, CA 94578.
Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 21, 1994. This business Registrant commenced business name on the date January 21, 1994. This statement was filed with the Country Clerk of the City and Country of San Francisco, CA on January 21, 1994.

JANUARY 27, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 1994, L-182793

He spoke of how "we have been an integral part of the history, the culture, and the future of America," and he explained how Gay and Les-

bian Americans would har-ness electronic technology to link the disparate parts of the

gay and lesbian communities together to share information.

"I want to announce that in 1994, the time for the isolated, fearful, powerless homosexu-al is over. It is done. Now," said Lewis.

"We are going to take our place at the American table. We are not coming through insidious means. We are going to walk right in the front door. And we are going to sit down. And we are going to be America."

Gay and Lesbian Americans can be called at 1-800-889-5111. The mailing address is P.O. Box 77533, Washington, D.C. 20013-7533. Fax (202) 232-1773. Videotape copies of the C-SPAN broadcast will be available on loan and for airing on cable public access. ▼

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182751

Classifieds

The following person is doing business as PYRAMID HOME HEALTH CARE. 5285 Diamond Heights Blwd '307. San Francisco. CA 94131: LARRY JOSEPH KNEE, 5285 Diamond Heights Blwd '307. San Francisco. CA 94131; MATTHEW WEBSTER SYNDER, 5285 Diamond Heights Blwd '307. San Francisco. CA 949131; MATTHEW MEBSTER SYNDER, 5285 Diamond Heights Blwd '307. San Francisco. CA 849187 Blwd '307.

94/31.

Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 18, 1994. This business is conducted by a general narmership Signed LARRY JOSEPH Kut.

This statement was filed with the Country Clerk of the City and Country of San Francisco, CA on January 20, 1994.

JANUARY 27, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 1994. L-182751

Place YOUR classified ad today!! Just Dial 861-5019... and see results FAST!

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182201

The following person is doing business as PLANT ONE ON ME, 3975 B 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. DAVID IRA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94114. This Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This Street, San Francisco, CE 94114. This Street on the above fictificus business mame on resistance of the street of the street

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182843

94118. Registrent commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the above fictitious business name on the state of the

JANUARY 27, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 1994. L-182843

Legislative

Monitive the page 1) who argued for fitting theory to data — not the reverse.

The group slowly began to promote the proposal to others. One of their actions last fall was to zap Congressman Nadler at a district meeting and ask him what he was going to do about it. He surprised them by introducing a bill in Congress a few weeks later.

Milano admitted at the

later.

Milano admitted at the conference that Nadler's action "stunned" them. They weren't prepared to move so fast. The Congressman, surprised to learn this, graciously apologized for his alacrity, to the bemusement of all.

Nadler then gave what he called "civics 101," an explanation of how Congress works, where the bill was, and what would have to be done to achieve passage. He honestly stated the difficulties in reaching this goal.

"You get people to pay attention when you put it into bill form," said Nadler about his "study bill," HR 310, based on the McClintock Project. He realizes it is flawed and he sees it as a vehicle that will be amended reject. He realizes it is flawed and he sees it as a vehicle that will be amended, re-shaped, and reintroduced in different form, probably in a month or so. Some members of Congress have already vol-volversed to support the bill, of Congress have already volunteered to support the bill, but that search for co-sponsors will not begin in earnest until after the bill is redrawn. The next step then would be sub-committee hearings before a panel chaired by Californian Henry Waxman.

Waxman is a leader on health issues and a champion of AIDS issues in the House of Representatives. However, Nadler anticipates difficulty

of Representatives. However, Nadler anticipates difficulty in getting hearings, because "we are challenging the establishment," both the research establishment and those AIDS activists with strong ties to them. "Opposition will be on the basis that it [the proposal] is a dumb idea."

That opinion has already been stated by the Treatment Action Group (TAG), a faction that separated from ACT UP New York years ago and has become a well-respected voice on technical medical research

issues. Nadler said he had not yet spoken with Waxman on HR 3310. Nadler brought three of

his staff with him to the session. The group spent more than four hours at the meeting, before having to fly back to New York. In a business where any face-to-face meeting with a Congressman is treasured, an hour long meettreasured, an loar long ineeting was considered a coup; Nadler's commitment of time and energy was unusually generous. But few in the room seemed to realize that.

Participants began to drift out at the lunch break. By the time Nadler's party left in

out at the function break. By the time Nadler's party left in mid-afternoon, those remaining were increasingly a New York-dominated hard core or corps. With each passing hour, the session degenerated further. Bickering and invec-tive grew over petty, tertiary

One dialogue, for example, centered around whether to to use "act" or "project" when referring to the proposal and the bill.

the bill.

The concept of grassroots organizing seldom focused beyond ACT UP, though the more visionary expanded that to include the broader lesbian and gay community as well.

There was a studious avoid. There was a studious avoid-ance of discussing how to reach middle America be-yond gay ghetto enclaves, and denial when someone dared to raise the subject.

to raise the subject.
Structure was anathema.
Nobody mentioned a steering committee, but one activist made a preemptive strike when he said, "Clearly we are not ready to make appointments to a steering committee. Some people would never want it anyway." He went on to onine that communications.

er want it anyway." He went on to opine that communicating "every three months might be enough."

Sissyfag tried repeatedly to bring an expanded sense of vision and structure to the group, his frustration clearly rising with each failed attempt. It was to no avail.

Sissyfag evaluated the meeting as "about activists fitting into the idea of being an activist and not about changing things, being effective. It was really self-serving." He doesn't see the effort going anywhere.

BAY AREA REPORTER

JANUARY 27, 1994 PAGE 27



LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 957629

957629

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATOP CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE STATOP CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE STATOP CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE MADE TO THE STATOP CALIFORNIA AND THE STATOP CA

January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 1994 L-957629

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 957549

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application process. The county of the county

January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 1994 L-957549

The following person is doing business as CAFFE MONDA, 2032 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109: FRANK MONDA, 1411 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant commenced business under the date January 1, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed FRANK MONDA. This statement was filed with the Countries that the country of the statement of the country of the countr

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182092

JANUARY 27, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, 1994. L-182092

ROOMMATES

HOUSEMATE - FREMONT GWM to share 3 bdrm 2-1/2 bth twnhse with GWM. Lrge bdrm, separate bth, full house privls. Pool, jucuzia and gym equip, avail. \$475/mo. + 1/2 utils. Will consider small pet. Security deposit required. (510) 795-9670. Please leave message.

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THE STOP AIDS PROJECT is a non-profit community organizing project for self-identified gay and bisexual men in San Francisco which seeks to reduce HIV transmission and lessen the adverse effects of the HIV epidemic on the commu-nity by providing outreach, free informal discussion groups, and referral services.

THE STOP AIDS PROJECT is currently accepting applications for two full time staff

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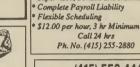
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Palm Springs California, a destination for everyone. By Jim Kavanaugh

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Palm Springs, California, is now generally acknowledged among gays to be the first choice of travel destinations - overtaking and now far ahead of older resorts both in numbers of gay men and women visitors and also the wide diversity of its gay hotels, restaurants, nightlife and natural tourist attractions.

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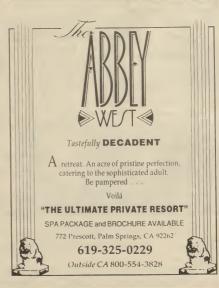
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ITERTAINMENT

OPLE AND PERSONALS

San Francisco Photographer Gets a Showcase

Oh Danny Boy

he story of photogra-pher Dan Nicoletta in San Francisco takes him from those up-per Haight Ashbury apart-ments of the early '70s, where ments of the early '70s, where tons of thrift-store trash treasures filled the airy-fairy garretts of glitter encrusted Genderfuck drag queens, to his current spacious Hayes Valley workplace, a second floor aerie, an ample, bright studio inherited from Gene Nevins, a black commercial photo stylist who Danny staved by a black commercial photo stylist who Danny stayed by during the man's final year with AIDS. Now, 20 years af-ter arriving in San Francisco, and 14 years into an epidem-ic, Nicoletta's entire photographic odyssey is about to go public.

graphic odyssey is about to go public.

Throughout February, Josie's Cabaret will display Nicoletta's first public oneman photo show. Lypsinka performs concurrently.

Over the past two decades, Nicoletta has jockeyed an adolescent fascination with the gutter glamour of carnival and sideshow life into a largely unsuing theater photographer's career, one whose final product is a superbrecord of San Francisco's counterculture glitterati, its performers of the stage and streets: defiant drag queens, errant skate punks, tattooed freaks-by-choice. At one point, the photographer was intimate with Harvey Milk, among others. Through all those years he shot many photos, at times for the mere pittance and incidental byline provided by the gay press, and always in the excellent pittance and incidental byline provided by the gay press, and always in the excellent company of other scene photographers like Crawford Barton (who helped Nicoletta), Marc Geller, Jessica Tanzer, Rink and Rick Gerharter.

During that time Nicoletta was the eternal boy, bright of eye, clean of cheek. Those youthful good looks, great cheekbones and honest smile are still there, only now the Paul Newman-blue eyes shine at you between quotation

at you between quotation mark wrinkles and the salt-npepper crewcut says he's been there. As an Italian, he's a storyteller. We'll let the story begin when I asked him about a Perugina chocolate box in his studio kitchen, a huge starshaped beauty, a foot-and-a-half across, with chinoise

half across, with chinoise designs.

"That was a gift from Michael Angarola, my conduit to the Ridiculous Theater Company," said Nicoletta. "I met him and his lover George, who was protege to Charles Ludlum the drag comedy company's founder and resident genius, at a card game in Brooklyn. They were the first gay kids I ever met. I was 17 and they were in their early 20s, living in a condemned apartment building. Both cruised the hell out of Both cruised the hell out of

me but I was so naive I thought they were just being

thought they were just being friendly. When I arrived for art school in Kansas City there was a letter from both waiting at my new dorm, the first of monthly pen-pal letters about rock stars we loved—Bowie, Jagger.

"I finally got together with Michael the next summer," Nicoletta continued, "while the Ridiculous was on tour. I went backstage with him to meet the New York Dolls, and got to see all of Charles Ludlum's gowns. He took me to the Fashion District to meet his friends who worked as designers. It became a 'same time next year' relationship for quite a few years. Michael, a gorgeous Italian Michael, a gorgeous Italian man who wore platform shoes and mascara on his lowshoes and mascara on his lower lid for that 'gay gaze', had never once left New York. But at the end of his life, with advanced AIDS, he came to visit in San Francisco for a vacation. That box of chocolates was his thank you gift for being my guest. I didn't actually get together with George until eight years after the card game, but he too showed me the ropes."

Memories of Harvey

Memories of Harvey
Our talk moves easily from stories of his tchatskes
("What is that, a Jewish word, an Italian one? It's certainly gayese...") to looking at his photographs on the walls. Almost all black and whites, crisp where they ought to be, soft when that's what you want. Many are location shots of our own stars in action, most are from years gone by, and they haunt. "I surround myself with icons of friends past. I think photography is the art of honoring the past, hopefully without succumbing to the anesthetizing effect of nostalgia, which is not trulted with the services."

hopefully without succumbing to the anesthetizing effect of nostalgia, which is not truly desirable."

After transferring from Kansas City Art Institute to CCAC in Oakland, Nicoletta dropped out entirely and moved to San Francisco in 1974. He soon discovered the newly gay Castro District and "Harvey's camera shop became my education. Back then the person who registered you to vote signed your form: the signature on mine is Harvey's. It was my initiation into political activism, working on his second campaign, going to Bingo games in the Mission with him, and then he offered me a 40-houraweek job in the store as the extra pair of hands. My life took off. I was two feet off the ground, there at the hub, with life's rich pageant before me. They used to tease me about being attracted to anything with two legs and a dick, but that was really true about Harvey. I basically seduced Harvey and there's



Picture-perfect trio: Nicoletta snapped this pic of Harvey Milk, Jose Saria (left) and Mavis (right) at a San Francisco Academy of Performing Arts presentation in 1978. Saria wears his *Dolly* gear and Mavis is dressed as Agnes Gooch from *Mame*.

no bad rap on it; my protege relationship to him is some-thing I'm proud of!"
On the wall is a photo of Harvey, taken on October 28, 1978, at the end of his fourth campaign, just before he finally won. We are on stage at a San Francisco Academy of Performing Arts event, and our candidate has Jose Saria (the queen who ran for super-visor two decades ago) on one hand, and Mavis, a bartender at the 'N Touch, on the other. The old school is celebrating the new, three joyful men

Both Jose and Mavis are in full formal drag. Harvey is wearing the same suit he will be murdered in, as Danny points out. "Those clothes were just returned to his archive, a testimonial to the brutality that occurred — you can see holes where the bullets went through and there is still a patino of dried blood around them."

On the wall near that bit-tersweet trio are many shots documenting an evolving sub-culture's theater world. The framed subjects look at us with the same playful defiance Harvey showed. Here are Victoria Lowe and Winston Tong of the band Tuxedo Moon, "the first two bleach hags I ever saw." Here is Divine in live performance with eyebrows akimbo and right ham forward, terrorizing his audience at the Trocadero dance club. And here are Ralph Sauer and Beaver Bauer of the Angels of Light, the genderfuck spin-off group

John Epperson Returns to Josie's Cabaret

eartbreak Hotel

ohn Epperson, a.k.a.
Lypsinka, has survived
the perils of drag for
more than 15 years, the
runs in the stockings,
the wobbling on high heels,
the lipstick smears on the
front teeth and, of course,
those unsightly rashes from
stiff petticoats.

those unsigney stiff petticoats. A native of Hazelhurst, Mississippi, Epperson began stuffing his bras professional-ly in East Village venues in the late '70s while working as a rehearsal pianist for the American Ballet Theater.

> "I feel dirty."

Back then, when he was struggling as the writer, lyricist, composer and star of such musicals as Ballet of the Dolls and Dial 'M' For Model, Epperson had no idea that fame was soon to be his, that one day he'd become a major calcheir featured in Yourse one day lied become a major celebrity featured in Vogue fashion spreads, an actor cut out of the final version of Philadelphia, and the subject of his own coloring book?

(Continued on page 36)

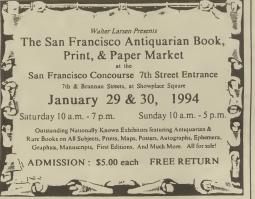


by Orland Outland

Hollywood SCOOP! And if this turns out to be true, don't forget that you read it here first: Rumor down LA way is first: Rumor down LA way is that Jonathan Demme and TriStar Pictures plan on releasing a "director's cut" of Philadelphia for European release and for American home video and laserdisc. This three-hour version would include all the "too gay" scenes that were filmed but then found unfit to print in the American theatrical rein the American theatrical re-lease. The reinstated scenes would include Tom Hanks in bed with Antonio Ban-deras, a more fleshed-out role for David Drake as



Ned Rorem: A combination of duress and politeness





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Hanks' best friend, and the Hanks' best friend, and the lost Lypsinka performance, among others. It's a rumor that makes sense: why throw away all that footage if they can make a profit from it in less squeamish markets?

less squeamish markets?

Hix Flip for Sick Pic: We're all sick of hearing from gay pundits (including me) about Philadelphia. So, how about a word from the "target audience"? Our guest reporter today is Anna Outland, a.k.a My Mommy, who recently saw the flick in a packed theater in my hometown of Reno, Nevada. Mommy, a retired nurse, thought Tom Hanks' performance was "overwhelming," and she says she wasn't alone. The whole crowd of Nevadans was silent as they left the theater, though she heard a good deal of sniffling at the film's end — and, surprisingly, she said that when the jury found in Hanks' favor, the Reno audience "burst into cheers and applause." (I lived there; believe me, that is a surprise.) Since the flick grossed \$14 million in its first weekend of general release, it looks like Middle America is having the last word on this movie after all.

Final Jeopardy Question: The manager of this chi-chi Castro district purveyor of Guppie indispensibles is noto-Guppie indispensibles is notorious for hiring only pretty gay male employees, and then forcing them to have sex with him. Naturally, this establishment's employee turnover rate is one of the highest in the city. It's a miracle nobody has yet brought a lawsuit against Mr. Hide The Sausage, especially since this has been going on for some time. Well, he shall reap what he has sown ... he has sown ..



Wesley Snipes: Spaghetti straps in his future?

Bite Me: Us reports that Tom Cruise won't be relieving his victims of their blood in the standard way in Interview With The Vampire.
Cruise reportedly will drain the blood not from their reports but from their sealed but from their sealed but from their sealed. the blood not from their necks but from their necks but from their necket but from their necket but ders? Is this devilish murder or immunization? The whole first week of filming had to be tossed, purportedly because "the film's overall look as well as certain performances and scenes all re-



Leonard Bernstein: In bed

quired reshooting." Funny, I heard it was because Cruise looked too short next to Brad Pitt and demanded both elevator heels and reshoots. That joke about this flick being such a bomb that they could name it Bonfire of the Vampires seems to be truer every day.

So Long, and Thanks For All The Fishnets: Beeban Kidron, director of Amblin's mainstream drag queen movie To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything, Julie Newmar, is taking a new approach to casting: all actors wishing to be cast not only have to audition, they have to show up for the audition in drag. So far, according to Variety, Willem Dafoe and Gary Oldman have both done so, and Wesley Snipes done so, and Wesley Snipes is rumored to be looking for the right little number to wow 'em with.

A Face Only A Mother Could ... Recognize. Michael Jackson's mother Katherine Jackson's mother Katherine shows off her gaydar: "Michael's appearance makes people think he's gay, but he's not, because you can tell when a person is gay ... You look at a person's face, and you say, 'Oh, my God, that guy is gay." Unless, of course, he gets a whole new face, in which case you say, "Oh, my God, that guy is Diana Ross."

Composer Ned Rorem has recently completed his autobiography, and the New York Times got an uncorrected proof from the publisher. A tawdry tidbit that Rorem says he may excise from the final edition: "I have been in bed with four Time covers — Lenny Bernstein, Tennessee Williams, Noel Coward, and John Cheever— and I performed out of a combination of duress and politeness." A Quaker, Rorem also thinks that gay rights groups should be working to abolish the military, not join it. has recently completed his au-

Well, I could have told you what the best books were last year, and come to think of it, I did. The National Book Critics Circle had the good taste to agree with me. They've nominated two books by gay writers for the Criticism award: The Queen's Throat by Wayne Koestenbaum and United States: Essays 1952-1992 by Gore Vidal. And three of the five Biography nominees are either by or about gay men: Genet by Edmund White, The Passion of Michel Foucault by James Miller, and A Different Person, an autobiography by poet James Merrill. Audre Lorde was nominated dre Lorde was nominated for the Poetry award for The Marvelous Arithmetic of Dis-



Wunderbar writer John Cheever: He chased Ned,

Whoopi Goldberg will play a lesbian singer and Mary-Louise Parker of Fried Green Tomatoes fame will play an HIV-positive woman in the inexplicably named upcoming feature, Boys on the Side. Weepie film auteur Herb Ross will direct ... F. Murray Abraham (Amadeus) will take over the part of Roy Cohn from Ron Leibman in NYC's Angels In America.

It's CNN for gay people! Call my voice mail at 995-2342, leave a message or hear the latest dirt, updated every Thursday.



Mary-Louise Parker will co-star with a lesbian Whoopi.

Performance Artist Patrick Scully

Scully Goes Gray

by Wendell Ricketts

t's usually a mistake to make comparisons, but indulge me when I say that Minneapolis-based performance artist Patrick Scully is a bit like a queer Spalding Gray. The image is meant to be flattering to both of them.

What Scully does best is tell stories. Like Gray, Scultell stories. Like Gray, Scul-ly's stories come from his own life: travails at work, sagas of boyfriends and lovers, struggles to proclaim a healthy sexuality in a commu-nity that AIDS has made increasingly ambivalent about the pleasures of the body. There's a certain midwest-

There's a certain midwest-ern obliqueness in Scully's manner that can be wonder-ful. It's the gentle, seemingly goal-less delivery that Garri-son Keillor at first made his trademark and later turned into a caricature. But the best of Scully's vignettes have that "come along and journey with me" quality.

"come along and journey with me" quality.

In his recent show at Josie's, Scully puts this distinctive style at the service of articulating what he calls Queer Thinking—the show's title. And it is in that attempt that Scully sometimes stumbles

bles.
From an engaging and creative beginning, in which Scully appears as Tanya, an alter ego who dresses in a pillbox hat and a jacket that one imagines could have been designed for Liberace, Scully wanders off into a series of anecdotes. Some are absorbing in themselves, some run ing in themselves, some run

out of gas somewhere down the road, and some try so hard to establish a moral that they collapse in self-consciousness.

Fuzzy

In one, for example, Scully recounts being assaulted in his home by a man who ofters him sex and then tries to rob him. To a point, the story is compelling. But once Scully begins to describe how police officers treat him with only half-hearted interest and explain how an indifferent "system" fails to endorse his quest for justice, the recitation before his part of the story of t

prain row an indinterent system" fails to endorse his quest for justice, the recitation becomes mundane. It isn't Scully's story anymore. Instead, it's a parable of how gay men are victimized by violence while society refuses to take the situation seriously.

Well, maybe that's true. But maybe it's also true that "society" doesn't take many acts of violence seriously. Scully, at least, has a friend in the DA's office who calls with advice about how to navigate the bureaucracy; the police officers Scully meets are polite, if nonchalant, and inspectors return his phone calls. If he return his phone calls. If he return his phone calls. If he were a straight black man in Compton — instead of a gay white man in Minneapolis — Scully wouldn't have gotten that much.

But I digress. Elsewhere, Scully makes the standard swipes at closeted gays without acknowledging the fact that most homosexual and bi-sexual men and women in America are in the closet, a

reality that has never once been accounted for in the half-decade of "queer theory" we have thus far endured. Scully subtly criticizes "butchness" as somehow counter-revolutionary, which leads to the conclusion that "real" queer men can't be (should," the) too measuring "real" quee men can't be (shouldn't be?) too masculine. This is not exactly a progressive concept.

Show and tell

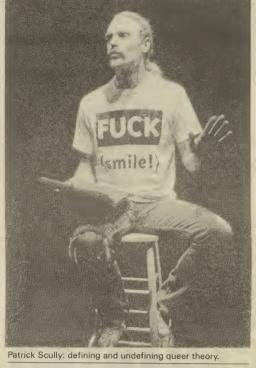
Show and tell

He describes a nearly exclusive passion for black men, but never gets at what that attraction represents or how racial and cultural differences play themselves out in his relationships. (I mean, race can be racy; but let's not pretend it doesn't mean anything.)

Finally, Scully observes, with a hint of reproach, the fact that success in modern gay male life seems guaranteed to those who possess at least two of the following three: a pretty face, a muscled body, and a big dick.

Scully, however, not only talks about his own big dick (and, lest he be accused of abusing his artistic license, shows it), he admits to being a size queen. That said, it would have been interesting to know how Scully reconciles these facts with his view that "queer" culture over-emphasizes physical appearance. phasizes physical appearance.

Admittedly, this has been the scenic route to saying that Scully doesn't exactly reach the heart of the semantic, ethical, and political conflicts



that "queer thinking" presents for today's homosexually-inclined. The problem with defining "queer thinking" — a predicament that "queer" arts and letters, "queer" studies, and "queer" theory all share — is that the terms don't actually mean anything. Or, perhaps better put, they mean whatever anyone who uses them says they mean.

In the end, of course, that's precisely the point: the beauty of a concept like "queer" is that people can and do use it

to establish themselves as any sort of "other" they want. It bespeaks a kind of anarchy of personal identity.

It is, nonetheless, tortuous to define oneself as "not something," as Scully does when he constructs "queerness" out of "not male, not female, not straight, not gay, not femme, not butch, not top, not bottom." Even if the current rage is for this sort of scruffy thinking, the attempt only winds up reinforcing the very categories it hopes to very categories it hopes to crush.



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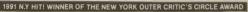
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Theatre

Guts But No Glory

by Deborah Peifer

he first rule of gutting he first rule of gutting a real fish on stage is don't. The second enough to disregard rule one, is to get the fish, and its guts, offstage before the action of hot lights on decaying fish fills the theatre with the rank odor of putrefaction. Not only does the Berkeley Theater odor of putretaction. Not only does the Berkeley Theater Project disregard both rules in its production of Sam Shepard's Action, but, thanks to the conceit (multiple meanings intended) of repeating the one-act play twice, we have two fish gutted instead of one

Action is early Shepard (1975), and it contains all of Shepard's virtues and a raft of its own dandy defects as well. According to a program note, the play "opened in New York to the worst reviews of any play of Shepard's career." Not surprising, that, but the company goes on to explain that "we like to think of it as a play ahead of its time, that the ab surdity of the times has only now caught up with the play." I like to think that Action is a play so firmly rooted in the self-involvement of the '70s that it has nothing whatever to say to a contemporary audience save perhaps to warn us all of the danger of the unbridled ego.

Four characters, two men Four characters, two men and two women, are trapped in an isolated cabin, cut off from the outside world by snow and ice. The time seems to be Christmas (a small decorated tree blinks on and off throughout the play), but the characters make no reference to the tree or the times.

The only clue that the play

might be set in some future post-disaster period is a cryp-tic comment about the dimly tic comment about the dimly remembered time of mass en-tertainment. In the world of the play, there is only one book to read. Each character speaks at some length about nightmares and fears and snow and turkey and hunger,



Alyson Quinby (left), Dylan Kussman and April Catherall in Sam Shepard's Action.

but there is no difference in but there is no difference in tone or language among them. Each speaks in the deeply self-indulgent lan-guage that was the hallmark of avant-garde in the '60s and '70s. The speeches are dis-jointed and seemingly fraught with inner meaning. I say with inner meaning. I say seemingly because a close reading of the entire play reveals considerably less depth than an episode of *Beavis* and *Butthead*.

and Butthead.

There is no real feeling expressed, no intelligent comment on the state of the world, just talk and more talk. Chairs are smashed and replaced. A turkey is carved. And, of course, that damned fish is gutted in full view of the audience. Anticipating the second act gutting made the second act gutting made the intervening time even more unpleasant.

Trendy Gender Bending

In what I assume is an attempt to cash in on trendy gender bending (or to fill an evening without having to pay royalties for two plays), BTP performs Action first as BITP performs Action first as written, with men playing the male roles and women the female. After a 10-minute intermission (to clear away the fish guts), the play is performed again with the genders of the characters switched. But the men still play men, and the

women, women - they simply trade lines. Since no character has any reality at all, and certainly no gender, the change is meaningless.

is meaningless.
Clearly the second version
was supposed to prove some
infantile, predetermined
"truth" about gender differences. According to the press
release, "as the scenes that are
aggressively competitive between the men become
warmly competitive between
the women, it is clear that warmly competitive between the women, it is clear that gender does play a role in meaning." But there is no hint of any serious attempt to explore gender by director Aaron Davidman or his cast. Instead we see the same old, same old, as gender distinctions are at best trivialized and at worst codified.

Action is a trite play that

and at worst codified.

Action is a trite play that stands as a monument to the ego of the playwright and perhaps to the ego of director, artistic director and star, Aaron Davidman. The production serves no purpose save to remind us that fish isn't the only thing that stinks.

Action Climate Theatre, through Feb. 13 626-9196

Lypsinka

"Oh, yeah, if I can speak modestly," Epperson said in a recent interview in New York, "I always knew it would happen, and it was just a matter of time and a matter

methodically plugging of methodically plugging away. But there was something inside me that always knew I would get this far."
"This far" includes having one of his shows financed by Madonna, strutting alongside Leff Struker. Share Stone

Madonna, strutting alongside Jeff Stryker, Sharon Stone and Dolph Lundgren as a fashion model for couture de-signer Thierry Mugler, and appearances on two recent HBO specials with Sandra Bernhard and Roseanne

Arnold.

Now for the month of rebruary, Epperson returns to Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, one of his favorite venues, with an all new show, As I Lay Lip-synching.

"How is this show different from the others?" I asked gingerly. Epperson gasps over the phone, "Well, the last couple of shows I've done have been more personal, and this one is the most person-al, so it's different from the others in that way. . It's more personal in that it's more emotional. It's really about me, but filtered about me, but filtered through this other character, Lypsinka.

Lypsinka."

Since Epperson brought up personal matters, it seemed the right time to ask about his own life, which few people know much about. "Are you single, dating, betrothed?" I asked. Epperson laughed, "Well, I'm not sure if I'm detains right you or not." I'm dating right now or not, came the response. "It's been on again, off again for several months now and, in fact, that's what the new show is about.

"Do I detect heartbreak?" I asked. "That's pretty much what happened," Epperson asked.

Spectral emissions

"Tell me," I said, hoping to change the direction of our conversation, "do you ever have dates who say, 'Put on a dress!" "Oh, that's never happened," said Epperson, "but then I don't have that many dates either."

tes either."
Suddenly, as if triggered by something in our conversa-tion, Epperson placed his phone next to a speaker and a loud, complicated collage of

female voices, no doubt fodder for his new show, spewed

der for his new show, spewed over the line:
"I feel dirty... filthy...everything is filthy. I feel dirty... Oh, men, you say 'no thanks' to one of them and bingo, you're a candidate for the funny farm... NO! NO!... There's one little operation but they experiently here in the control of the state of the that they perform here — it's on the brain. It's called a lobotomy. You may have heard of it or read about it. I have. It's that nice young doctor's registry in some of the state of the s

have. It's that nice young doctor's specialty in cases of hopeless lunacy. He bores holes into the scalp and operates on the brain....NOOOO!" A piercing scream followed. Then Epperson casually picked up the receiver and explained, "There's Polly Bergen yelling, 'I killed my baby,' and there's a little bit from Rosemary's Baby — This is no dream. This is really happening,' and then there's a bit from Elizabeth ally happening,' and then there's a bit from Elizabeth Taylor. That scream at the end was from Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? And the music underneath, I'm very proud of this whole thing, it's a 10-minute mix using the Third Movement of the Bartok Concerto for Orchestra and then a bit of the Fifth Movement. It's a dream se-Continued on page 40.

(Continued on page 40)

Mountain View - Century 10

David Stevens' 'The Sum of Us'

A Superior 'Jeffrey'

by Jerry Metzker

here's such a thing as being too well-adjusted," Jeff thing as being too well-adjusted," Jeff Mitchell explains to the audience, referring to his sometimes overly supportive father, Harry. Indeed, in David Stevens' The Sum of Us, currently playing at the Marin Theatre Company in Mill Valley, Jeff can hardly bring a man home before his father intrudes upon their intimacy for a short chat and a perky, "How do you like your coffee in the morning?"

"You can call me Harry — or Dad, if you'd rather," he tells shy Greg as he good-naturedly turns a private moment into a three-way conversation, an event Jeff sometimes enjoys and sometimes resents.

resents.

How refreshing to see a play with such a close relationship between a parent and a homosexual child. Al-

though Harry sometimes feels sad because his son will never experience the wonder of making a child with the woman he loves, Harry still wants Jeff to have an intimate and similar kind of relationship with another man. "I just want you to be han-

similar kind of relationship with another man.

"I just want you to be happy," Harry tells his son later, but poor Jeff watches a not so well-adjusted Greg balk at the camaraderie between father and gay son. During their conversation Greg is charmed by Harry. Once Harry retires, however, the pain of Greg's own life overwhelms him, and he flees into the night.

Under David Ford's exquisite, sensitive direction, this scene is one of many beautifully rendered moments in this production.

Even though playwright Stevens' writing background is in television and the play develops much like the pilot

for a TV series, it still transfers remarkably well to the stage. Ford even manages to make the problematic monologues and asides regularly delivered by Jeff and Harry directly to the audience integral to the production. In a lesser director's hands, such pieces would come across as too expository. too expository.

Wonderful Walters

At the heart of *The Sum* of *Us* lies the relationship between son and father, Jeff and

tween son and father, Jeff and Harry. In fact, most of the play revolves around just the two of them — talking, sharing, bickering, and laughing.

As Harry, W. Francis Walters is superb. Ever devoted, ever fatherly, ever prodding, Walters' Harry understands the power and happiness of love and expends a great deal of energy pushing his son toward that happiness. Not only is Harry a charmer to his son's friends, he is also pretty suave in wooing his own woman friend, Joyce. Walters' greatest acting triumph, however, occurs in the last scene, but you will have to see the but you will have to see the play for yourself to know

play for yourself to know why.

Spencer Aste plays Jeff equally as well. As a man trying to find romance and love but afraid of the hurt, Aste's Jeff is a sympathetic hero. Actually, it would be nice to see Aste as that other more famous, more neurotic Jeffrey. Combining the best of both casts and running both productions in repertory would not only reveal a lot of what it means to be gay in our society, it would also present a legitimate sampling of our lives



to our heterosexual brothers and sisters without provoking them or demeaning ourselves. Not one person in the primar-ily heterosexual Marin audience so much as gasped when Jeff and Greg shared a passionate kiss.

Both Jeffrey and The Sum of Us focus on what Jeff calls at the end of the first act, calls at the end of the first act,
"The agonizing pain of it all."
His date with Greg is a
washout, and that ever present fear of being alone and unhappy pushes him toward despair. But *The Sum of Us* tackles that despair more honorably and more honestly. Rather than tossing one-liners out during every moment of painful truth, its humor comes from the characters and their situations, giving this play a more authentic feel.

The Sum of Us Marin Theatre Company, through Feb. 13 388-5208

The Five Lesbian Brothers

Workin' Girls

by Mara Math

The Secretaries, presently at Theatre Rhinoceros, is a departure for The Five Les-bian Brothers in that only one of the six characters in the piece is an out lesbian. So when two fans told one of the Brothers "We loved it?" it was only natural that Mo respond-ed, "You're straight?"

The oddness of this exchange points to both the strengths and weaknesses of the Five's latest ouevre. the Five's latest ouevre. Those of us who have worked in offices can appreciate much of the ridiculousness the Brothers bring into broad relief — secretaries who chitter like squirrels, "hair-do's that would stop a truck" and Slimfast obsessions that make a slice of cucumber a hedonist lanse. At the same time, we lapse. At the same time, we feel uncomfortable with the ridicule that permeates this uneasy mix of farce, satire and melodrama. "We are sec-reTARies/just like we always dreamed we'd be," the Brothers chant to the audience's ob-vious delight. Funny, yes, but is it so absurd for working class women to see secretarial school as a way out of the fac-tory, the restaurant, the dry cleaners?

In the first few minutes of the show, when the Fives are in their Greek Chorus Mode, and the secretaries at Cooney Lumber inform us that they whack a lumberjack once a month, much of the potential month, much of the potential dramatic tension is dissipated. The only questions that remain to be answered are when "new girl" Patty will cotton on and whether or not she'll go along with the Big Bone Organization of Women's Monthly Event. When Patty's idolized supervisor. Patty's idolized supervisor tells her that the only option she has is to go home to po-dunk and date local boys, Pat-ty falls like a tree and agrees to axe her sweet boyfriend

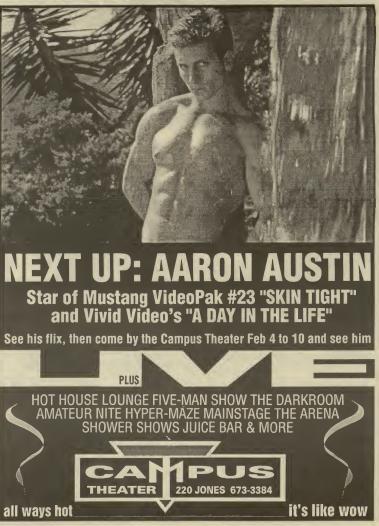
As Miss Curtis intones, "We don't kill men because they're bad, we kill because we're

bad."

The homoerotic tensions among ostensibly straight women are wonderfully delineated, with the slinky Susan Curtis (Peg Healey), the object of much adulation, doing a kind of Miss-Jean-Brodie turn. The supervisor embodies the contradictions intended to drive the play: she is granted her privilege only as an agent of the men with power, exacerbating the other women's self-hatred in order to control them, while simultaneously them, while simultaneously sharing their rage at being so dominated. The revelation of Curtis' extraordinarily vague criminal past is one of the many loose ends in this pro-

Because the male power in the office is off-stage and ab-sent, and because of the pecu-liar fictional choice for a celibacy rule in the office, it's easy to forget that much of the women's dissatisfaction with themselves is imposed from without And because of from without. And because of the excellent acting and timing of the troupe, it's almost ing of the troupe, it's almost as easy to forget that the play does not really add up. Special kudos to Maureen Angelos as both the lesbian secretary, Dawn Midnight, and Patty's Snail (sensitive, new age, intelligent, logger) boyfriend. Lisa Kron has a slightly too familiar turn as Peaches Martin, the ditzy but warm-hearted incompetent. The costumes are on target with the exception of one wig with the exception of one wig that is so bad it constantly calls attention to itself on Babs Davies' "Ashley Eliza-beth." Amy Shock has designed a clever minimalist set.

The Secretaries Theatre Rhinoceros through February 25 861-5079.



Cliches Drown the Fire in 'Why Things Burn'

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A MAN'S BARBERSHOP

APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AND NOT NECESSARY

Burned Out

by Deborah Peifer

omewhere in the middle of one of the middle of one of the innumerable and interminable scene changes in Why Things Burn, I found myself thinking that someone ought to tell playwrights about reception theory, specifically about the notion that anytime a scene change takes longer than six seconds, the audience drifts away from the world of the

play, and has to be re-engaged when the new scene begins.

A few scene changes later, I decided that I would be the one to mention this basic piece of stagecraft. Lots of little scenes are okay for movies, since the move from one scene to the next is effectively instantaneous, but in theatre, lots of little scenes in-terrupted by scenery changes result in audience disaffec-

Why Things Burn is Marlane Meyer's odd collection of little scenes that add up to considerably less than a satisfying theatrical whole. We meet Lester (Jarion Monroe), his alcoholic wife, Desiree (Kathleen Cramer), and their very odd skinhead son, Lon (Del Sherman). Lon and Lester belong to a neo-nazi, white supremacist club devoted to racial purity through arwhite supremacts that devoted to racial purity through ar-son. Lester talks at length about the goals of his club, Desiree is murdered (of three female characters in the cast, only one survives — none of the men are killed, or even in-jured), and Lon goes off to Aunt Velma (Kathleen

Aunt Velma (Kathleen Cramer again) to plan and ex-ecute a citywide fire that will spark the Aryan revolution. The direction was most noticeable by its absence.

On the way to the burning, Lon talks, and talks, and talks, about power and family and government and women and what's wrong with them and blah, blah, blah. In one of the few genuinely amusing moments, Sunny (Cintra Wilson) screams at Lon: "Don't you ever get sick of listening to yourself?" I know I got sick of listening to him long before Sunny came to that con-

clusion.
In the 90 minutes (no intermission) that constitute the running time of this play, the characters talk a great deal, but offer nothing in the way of insight into themselves, their types, or the social or-

Lon on his way to a burning.

der. Cliche masquerades as wisdom, loudly expressed anger as emotion. Meyer as playwright has given her characters no reason to exist,

characters in cleason to exist, giving the audience little reason to come the theatre at all. It's hard to know what to say about the acting. I assume that the actors were instructed to play single-dimensioned sterrotypes—the skinhead stereotypes — the skinhead, the skinhead dad, the ditzy women (three of those actualwomen (three of those actually), and, my personal favorite, Wendell (Sean San Jose Blackman), the flaming faggot (a stereotype layered with cliches). Surely someone chose the sing-song vocal style, with frequent droning as counterpoint. The characters, and the actors, become tedious very quickly, and more tedious as the evening drags on. The direction was noticeable by its absence, with considerably more movement during the scene than during the scenes the changes interrupted. Actors seemed to be glued to their chairs, when they to their chairs, when they weren't standing in place for interminable periods of time.

Why Things Burn could have been worse: it could have been longer, more homophobic, more dogmatic, more self-indulgent and there could have been more gratuiters with the self-indulgent terms. itous violence against women. Lucky for me it stopped when it did. \blacktriangledown

Why Things Burn Magic Theatre, through February 13 (415) 441-8822



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Film Clips

Small Town Stagnation

What's Eating Gilbert Grape is the tale of a young man (Johnny Depp) who's stagnating in a small town with his depressed, rotund mother (Darlene Cates), a mentally deficient and always-in-trouble younger brother (Leonardo DiCanrio). mentally deficient and always-in-trouble younger brother (Leonardo DiCaprio), and two sisters. Since his father's suicide, Gilbert has tried to hold the family together, while working at a grocery store, servicing a frustrated housewife (Mary Steenburgen), and falling in love with just-passing-through Juliette Lewis. Everything in Gilbert Grape has been seen before, in films from The before, in films from The Last Picture Show to Dominick and Eugene, but the minick and Eugene, but the cinematography of Sven Nykvist, the elliptical development of Depp's character, and fine acting by DiCaprio and Cates compensate for the derivative patches in Peter Hedges' script.

At the Lumiere (885-3200)

Crisis of Meaning

Roundabout the time of A Clockwork Orange, the mischievous but ultimately wellmeaning English rogue typi-fied by Tom Jones took an irrevocable turn for the worse. No longer merely a thorn in the side of petty authority, and as likely to offend audiences as seduce them, the character came to symbolize Britain's late 20th-century "crisis of meaning." Victimizer and victim, Johnny, the violent, impoverished anti-hero of Mike Leigh's Naked, knows he's doomed but is determined not to go down alone. The philosophizing misogynist worms his way back into the life of an ex-girl-friend, charms and abuses her roommate, and drifts into needless confrontations around Londontown. As played by David Thewlis he's nex- less than odious, which played by David Thewiis he's never less than odious, which makes his allure all the more curious. But Johnny has scoped out his prey, as Leigh has the audience: both capitalize on people's susceptibility to cheap sentiment. At the Lumiere (885-3200)

They're Still Ads

I've never been able to fathom the appeal of paying to watch TV ads, either the Clio Award compilations that toured years ago or the more recent "World's Best Commercials" collections. And since adspeak has become an international dialect, these cultural artifacts offer these cultural artifacts offer fewer clues than they might into life in the lands from which they originate

At the Castro (621-6120), Jan. 28-31

-Daniel Mangin

Sapphire's Art Transcends Personal Tragedy

Rewriting the American Dream



Sapphire

by Erin Blackwell

apphire is the name she gave herself she gave herself when she hitchhiked to San Francisco and ended up turning tricks in order to pay for a hotel room in the Tenderloin.

"So here I was" recalls the

the Tenderloin.
"So here I was," recalls the "So here I was," recalls the African-American poet, now 43, "this young black woman living in a single room in poverty with no real skills to earn a decent living, no education, knowing that unless a quick change of luck happened I would probably be dead soon. I started to write." Twenty years later. Sao-

Twenty years later, Sap-phire's collection of poetry and prose, American Dreams, and prose, American Dreams, offers compelling evidence of the flesh-and-blood trauma that sexism and racism exact on confused human beings. She says she compiled the book the way women make crazy quilts, out of bits of fine brocade and old levis: "That's how Lifewid myself putting

crazy quilts, out of bits of fine brocade and old levis: "That's how I found myself putting these diverse pieces together. They were like pieces of my soul, pieces of my life."

What binds together the fragments, some autobiographical, some fictional, is the immediacy of the events portrayed and the unflinching honesty of the witness. "I wanted it to be true," says Sapphire. "I wanted it to be necessary and deeply, deeply true. And I wanted it to some necessary and deeply, deeply true. And I wanted it to some-how fit in with this vision I had of healing and transcen-dence of even the worst real-

The worst reality includes The worst reality includes surviving violent rape by her father, working peep shows and bachelor parties, and picking up the pieces of her murdered brother's memory. Sapphire says her writing has been criticized for going beyond the limits of art, but that "there's a need sometimes to tell it just like it is, without that element of transcendence, but knowing that in the testimony, in the giving of witness—that, in and of itself, is transcendence."

Transcending her own tragedy has given her an extraordinary capacity for insight into her fictional characters' tragic flaws, on both an individual and a witned lead.

ters' tragic flaws, on both an individual and a cultural lev-

el. As for the so-called limits of art: "For me, the art ques-tion is secondary. For me, the first question is the truth and the necessity of the writing.

And someone else will decide whether this is high art or low art or whatever. All I care is that it move people and that it be a force for healing and constructive change.

Atypical influences

Not surprisingly, models for her own work have not come from the literary pantheon. "The books that have moved me the most in my life are slave narratives," she says.

"And some of these women couldn't even read and write."

Like Sapphire, the women who wrote the slave narratives didn't have time for the limits of art. "If those illiterations to block these ate black women had waited on — even to learn to read and write to record their story we would not have some of the most moving slave narra-tives," says Sapphire, her sweet voice as scalding as hot honey. "Because the white male's documentation of slav-

male's documentation of slavery was that it was fun and that we loved it and that the women loved it when the master came down to the quarters to fuck 'em."

Contradicting the master's voice in order to push back the limits he's placed on what he decides to call art may be an essential part of becoming an artist. Currently pursuing an MFA in Poetry at Brooklyn College, Sapphire has to deal with censorship pretending it's criticism: "I think the poem would work better if you left out the word incest," she quotes the prototypical. you left out the word incest," she quotes the prototypical fellow student as saying. "Over and over again, the white male culture on all levels, aesthetically and politically, is telling me, 'Leave out those words. Do you have to talk so nasty?""

ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT TOO!

Sapphire's language isn't nasty; the reality she's describing is. "Part of it, too, is coming out of denial and admitting that we are in a sort of a war situation," she says. There is a war against peo-le of color. There is a war against women. There is

war against gay and lesbian people. And many, many of us are not surviving." In the current state of a continuing emergency, the personal is just as political as it ever was. "To speak in the first person "To speak in the first person as a survivor of racism, of sex abuse, of classism, these are political acts."

Nonetheless, there is a limitation of the service of the serv

it to what even a politically conscious artist can do. "I can't save all the children

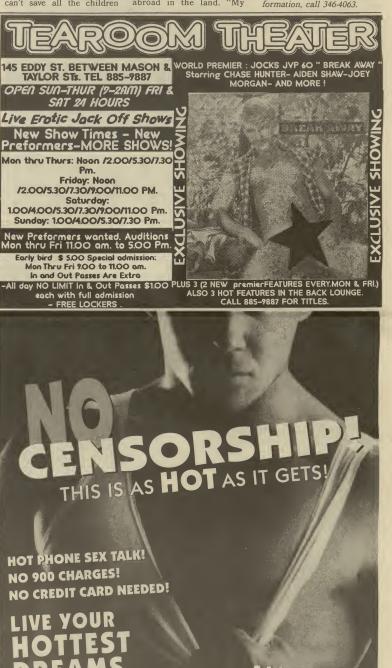
who are being raped. I can't save all the lesbians who are being bashed and all the sex workers at this very moment whose throats are being slit by maniacs," says Sapphire
"Sometimes the most revolu tionary act we can do is to give people a vision, and a reason to keep going, and some hope."

ome hope."

The author of American Dreams is committed to documenting "the destroyed dream," as she calls it, "with somehow the dreamer, somehow, being able to take that destruction and create a new dream." Call it art, call it politics call it are new solities. itics, call it a new spirit abroad in the land. "My

words, my intelligence, my voice as a black woman count. There's nothing I can do about Thomas Jefferson deciding I'm three-quarters human, that I'm not a part of the Declaration of Independence. I will have to write myself into his dream."

Editor's note: Sapphire will perform at the second annual Feminism, Activism and Art conference, sponsored by the LAB and SF Camerawork. "The Illustrated Woman" takes place February 4 and 5 at Center for the Arts Forum at Yerba Buena Gardens, 700 Mission St at Third. For information, call 346-4063.



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BAY AREA REPORTER

SEX PARTY

JANUARY 27, 1994

PAGE 39

Profile

Danny

and successor to the Cockettes, in their Hindu-esque "Holy Cow." The June 3, 1979 photo shows them in collectively designed costumes, brocaded, fringed, gilt encrusted, tiger-striped and florid.

"A lot of these portraits are about what people are wearing. Drag is the general word for what people wear on a day-to-day basis and how that signifies who they are, or what they are becoming, or what the world is becoming, and remember, back then the audience was half the show. Going to see The Angels was a reason to get bedecked. Not me, of course, I was doing tech."

Sensitive balance

Sensitive balance

The photographer's own desires may be evidenced in his erotic work, which began in 1987, with shaved-ahead-of-his-time Dexter, who Nicoletta says is still one of his best friends. "He agreed to sit for me and jerk off on his skate-based the orbed-invest of a board, the embodiment of a fantasy I had been enchanted with at that time. A challenge for me is to cultivate a rough-trade fetish and at the same time recognize its potential for dysfunctionality, and stay out of harm's way. My work is a vehicle for understanding that fine line between collab-oration — as in a portrait sti-ting — and exploitation." Dex-ter appears here standing in front of one of his own huge

paintings.

A few images appear as close-up abstract symbols, people as objets d'art such as



"Ryan," by Dan Nicoletta

the one of Blair Apperson and Jeffrey Dauber in negative, their background and neo-trib-al tattoos glowing white on dark bodies, or the one of Don Baird's perky butt and Sister Double Happiness-emblazoned leather inchet

Double rappiness-timitazinear leather jacket.

The exhibit contains many more tributes to the living icons of our day. Quartknee in sports/raver drag towers over us. Lypsinka is present. "The

Lipp is the Ninth Wonder of the World," says Nicoletta, "and I'm happy my photos will be on the runway of her new show." Jade Semi-Precious appears in two of the exhibit's six color shots, in the first as Gus Van Sant's logo-centric angel, and in the other we see the model in bed with Connie Champagne and Flynn in a publicity shot for last year's hit stage show Dolls.

Veronika Klaus, our community's pre-eminent R&B and blues singer, is here, too, in a classic Vargas pose, supine with two boa constrictors. Then there is Ms. Kitty, "who showed up for a photo session with three full suitcases and at least eight fully developed concepts. We worked for 12 hours straight and didn't get to them all. The best was a basketball bimbo in pink leather chaps, a midriff sports top and no underwear." Jerome is nicely represented here as well. Veronika Klaus, our

chronicles, "need to be set forth in history. We've seen far too many people taken away before they did all they were meant to. Every gay person, HIV positive or not, has to face this."

face this."

Nicoletta responded to Donald Montwill's recent offer to mount this show in the heart of the gay and lesbian business district at Josie's. You can see it free from 9 to 6 daily, or before the show at night if you're quick enough to make reservations. Nicoletta also has plans to put material from this show



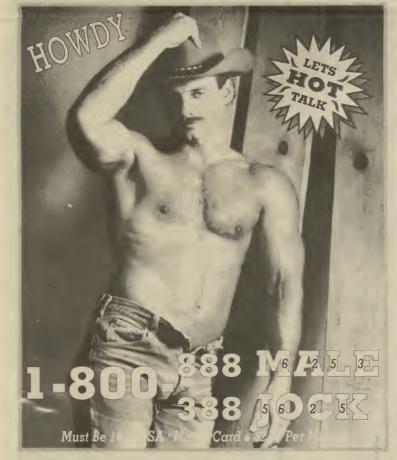
Dan Nicoletta in a photo by Crawford Barton

Among all this talent, a ar standout is the shot of Stafford as a crotch-grabbing guy in de rigeur activist street drag; freedom rings, Boy With Arms Akimbo tshirt, bestickered leather jacket, three-quarter length sideburns, two day's board growth "god birs.] ter length sideburns, two day's beard growth, "and a big old bulge in her pants." Yes, "he" actually put on a scary tutulike party dress in an extended session of butch/femme loving mockery. "I'm being touted now as a documentor of transgender people, but that's a new area for me: I've been more involved in drag from a theatrical tradition. But people have been revealing them. theatrical tradition. But people have been revealing themselves in my life as willing teachers of their own transgender explorations. There is a new generation, it seems, who want categorization by biological gender to cease."

All of these lives, the amazing and wonderful people he

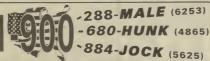
in a book, and you'll see five in a book, and you'll see five of his classic photos in a forthcoming St. Martin's Press coffee table volume on 25 years of *The Advocate*. My guess is that Daniel Nicoletta will soon have the national reputation he deserves, which means, hopefully, that he'll be represented by a gallery after this community show comes down at the end of February. That means at present his prints are still moderately priced, a substill moderately priced, a sub-tle hint to the wise collector.

Editor's note: Dan Nicoletta's Editor's note: Dan Nicoletta's one-man photo exhibition will be on display throughout February at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. A reception for the artist, and a welcome for Lypsinka, will be held Saturday, February 5, from 4-6 p.m.



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Lypsinka

quence. And I hired Barbara Feldon, (Agent 99) to read some additional material."

Sounds of creative exhaustion from the other end of the phone indicated it was time for us to end our conver sation, but not before I asked one last question, only I didn't know whether to ask about the lesbian who threw up at one of his performances or if I should ask something more elevated? I opted for the latter: "You know John," I said, "Europe, especially Great Britain, has always appreciated men in women's dresses. Does America have to be educated?

ucated?
"I'm not sure education is the right word," Epperson responded, "America just needs to be stripped of its hang-ups. On the other hand, if America was completely stripped of its hang-ups there wouldn't be that kind of naughty risqué factor that runs around drag and attracts people who aren't afraid to go and see it." A greater argument for il-A greater argument for illiteracy there isn't. ▼

Editor's note: Lypsinka appears in Lypsinka: As I Lay Lip-Synching throughout February at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. For tickets and information, call 861-7933.

Symphony Grab Bag



by Philip Campbell

fter the usual glut of holiday programming, the San Francisco Symphony is trying to shake the January doldrums with visits by guest conductors and soloists. If the results have been a mixed bag, the high points at least have been interesting.

bag, the high points at least have been interesting.

Andre Previn, who was seriously considered as a replacement to Herbert Blomstedt until Michael Tilson Thomas got the job, was the first to take the podium for the new year's subscription concerts. His first week was undermined by conventional undermined by conventional programming, but the musicians attempted a fresh involvement and a quartet of orchestra principals had a field day with Mozart's Serenate potturns

field day with Mozart's Serenata notturna.

A Beethoven Fourth Symphony had better have something special to justify inclusion on a regular series concert, but Previn's Beethoven is neither provocative nor particularly diverting.

Pianist Emanuel Ax gave a straight-forward account of

Pianist Emanuel Ax gave a straight-forward account of Mozart's delightful Piano Concerto No. 9, so it was up to violinists Nadya Tichman and Darlene Gray, violist Geraldine Walther and bassist Michael Burr to pump some adrenaline into an otherwise

The following week found Previn in better form. It is a puzzlement that such an accomplished and intriguing performer can project so little personality onstage. Maybe it's all those years of studio work without audience con-tact or the assurance of a long career, but Previn makes no

effort to charm.

No matter if the music is well served, and Ravel's com-

plete ballet score Daphnis et Chloe proved the conductor has not moved so far from his glory days in the Hollywood soundstages that he can't still seduce an audience with

the Korngold overpowered Kobler in the first but the balance fared bettter. He provided clear insight into the piece.

sheer aural splendor.

Appropriately, the concert started with Erich Korngold's Violin Concerto. The composer was renowned in Europe when the Nazis forced his flight to Southern California. flight to Southern California. His lasting fame comes from the unforgettable film scores he wrote for Warner Brothers. Much of the Concerto's thematic material derives from such epics as Juarez, Anthony Adverse and The Prince and the Pauper.

Concertmaster Raymond Kobler has never been noted for possessing a particularly rich tone, but he is a seasoned professional and must be recreased.

professional and must be rec

ognized for his willingness to test limits. The robust tunefulness of the Korngold overpowered him in the first movement, due mostly to poor tuning, but the balance of the piece fared better. He presented a clear look at an irresistible show piece.

Vance George's Symphony Chorus made a banquet of Ravel's sensuous vocalise in the Daphnis and, if Previn's emphasis on rhythm over mood obscured some of the sensuous pleasures, it certainly charged the performance with energy and thrills.

Christoph Eschenbach

Next on the podium was Christoph Eschenbach, music director of the Houston Symphony since 1988. Unlike Andre Previn, he succeeds in being the focal point onstage -

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his trim physique and aristo-cratic bearing command at-tention and his exceptionally metrical beat demanded utmost discipline from the or chestra.

chestra.

Alban Berg's remarkable
Three Pieces for Orchestra,
Opus 6 still packs enough
wallop to frighten the horses
some 65 years after its premiere. Eschenbach's somewhat Prusing courted denied some of years and is promiter. Eschenbach's somewhat Prussian control denied the glamor of the scoring, but conveyed compelling logic.

Twenty year old cellist Wendy Warner made a no-

table debut with Schumann's deceptively simple Concerto in A minor. She appeared, courtesy of an admirable

Symphony program spotlighting young performers.

Ms. Warner's studies with the great Rostropovich have forged a wonderfully strong and lyrical tone and a tech-

nique capable of navigating the often uncomfortable placement of Schumann's writing. She is an artist to

watch.
Eschenbach closed with
Tchaikovsky's Francesca da
Rimini. He proved the piece
a relevant ancestor to the
Berg. Both are luxuriously orchestrated, episodic and, emotionally, way over the top.
Our musicians couldn't ful-

Our musicians couldn't ful-fill his demands adequately, but the results were exciting nevertheless. On his next visit we can only hope Eschenbach will get two weeks. This week, Vladimir Ashkenazy (another ex-con-tender) returns with fellow pi-anist Dimitri Bashkirov for Ravel's Piano Concerto for the Left Hand. The pint-sized powerhouse conductor will powerhouse conductor will also present Walton's terrific Symphony No. 1. ▼

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Bruce Peters stretches in preparation for GGIV.

(Photo: Rick Thoman)

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Gay Games Track Revisions

by Rick Thoman

Athletes who dutifully reg-Athletes who dutifully registered for Gay Games IV track and field by the December 31, 1993 deadline are in for a surprise when the revised schedule of events is released by the New York organizers. The schedule as printed in the registration book has been totally changed.

Organizers have only said the schedule was reworked "to insure the safety of individuals running in more than

viduals running in more than one race." But whereas the old schedule had competitors completing an event in one day, now events are stretched across the entire week, with

across the entire week, with most of the running event fi-nals on the same day. As an example of how the revised schedule will affect al-ready registered athletes, take the case of SF Track & Field runner Rob Lenderink. Previously he had final races throughout the week; now all

four of his races are on the same day, and he'll have a relay to run. "It just doesn't make sense," said Lenderink when he learned of the revised schedule. "This is going to make things very difficult."

And he is not alone in his dismay. Athletes signed up for events based on the published schedule in the registration packet are now having second thoughts about what they will and will not be able to do. Said SFT&FC co-coach Frank Demby, "Based on the original schedule, I would have had Thursday off to recuperate for the relays on Fricuperate for the relays on Friday. Now I'm running every day, with a killer schedule on Friday. It's going to be a long

week."

There is other good news/bad news flowing out of New York regarding Gay Games track and field. The good news is the track venue has finally been selected; the bad news is its Downing Stadium on Randall's Island. The all-weather track surface will be three years old by this be three years old by this June's Gay Games, but should be in fairly good shape. Downing Stadium itself is another story. Old and crumbling, it has no shade for athbling, it has no shade for athletes wishing to get in out of the energy-draining sun or take cover from possible summer rain showers. Randall's Island is a distance from Manhattan, but organizers are busy putting together a shuttle service not only for track athletes but also for the softball and soccer players who will be competing on the island.

More Good News

More good news is the as-signment of Malcolm Robin-son as Gay Games IV track

and field coordinator. Robinson was one of the original founders of the New York Frontrunners club and has a long history of involvement in long nistory of involvement in running and track and field. He has secured the services of the Metropolitan Athletic Congress (NY) division of the USA Track & Field association, so the meet will have paid professional of



Eddie Hall gets ready for GGIV.

cials and will be operating un-

clais and will be operating un-der USAT&F rules.

Track and field events will run Monday, June 20, through Friday, June 24. The track at Downing Stadium is reserved strictly for Gay Games' use from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day. The daily

doesn't make sense. This is going to make things very difficult."

schedule by hour for each event will not be available until just prior to the start of the Games. The time each event will be run will be based on the number of entries, which will also determine whether an event will have heats and semifinals or just a final. Gay Games organizers are encouraging those who know they will be unable to compete in an event they have registered for to notify the Gay Games of their withdrawal as soon as possible. This will speed up the composition of heats/events and reduce last-minute changes in the sched-ule, which plagued the Van-couver Games and slowed down the flow there.

The 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs, as well as the 5,000 me ter walk, will start and prob

ter walk, will start and probably finish on the track in Downing Stadium, but most of the races will be a looped run around the island.

The revised Gay Games IV Track and Field schedule is as follows. Note: trials and semifinals will only be run as needed.

Monday, June 20

100m Trials (Women) 10,000m (All) 4x100 Relay Trials and emifinals (Men, Women,

Mixed)
4x400 Relay Trials (Mixed)
5,000 Walk (All)
Decathlon — Day 1 events
Pentathlon — Day 1 events

Tuesday, June 21

100m Trials (Men); Semifinals (Men, Women) 800m Trials (Men, Women) 1500m Trials (Men, Wom-

400m Hurdles Trials (Men,

Women) 4x200 Relay Trials and Semifinals (Men, Women,

Semifinals (Men, Women, Mixed)
4x400 Relay Trials (Men, Women); Final (Mixed)
High Jump Qualifying Round (Men)
Triple Jump Qualifying Round (Men)
Decathlon — Day 2 events

Decathlon - Day 2 events

Pentathlon - Day 2 events

Wednesday, June 22

100m Finals (Men, Women) 200m Trials and Semifi-nals (Men, Women) 400m Trials (Men, Women) 110m Hurdles Trials (Men) 100m Hurdles Trials

110m Hurdles Trials (Wen)
100m Hurdles Trials
(Women)
400m Hurdles Semifinals
(Men, Women)
High Jump Final (Men);
Qualifying (Women)
Triple Jump Final (Men)
Shot-Put Qualifying (Men)
Discus Qualifying (Men,
Women)

4x100m Relay Final (Men, Women, Mixed)

Thursday, June 23

400m Semifinals (Men,

1500m Semifinals (Men, Women)
5,000m (All)
110m Hurdles Semifinals

(Men) 100m Hurdles Semifinals

(Women) 400m Hurdles Final (Men, Women)

Women)
High Jump Final (Women)
Long Jump Qualifying
Round (Men, Women)
Pole Vault Qualifying

(Men) Shot-Put Qualifying (Wom-

Discus Final (Men, Wom-

Javelin Qualifying (Men,

Javenn Quarrying (Men, Women) 4x200m Relay Finals (Men, Women, Mixed) 4x400m Relay Semifinals (Men, Women)

Friday, June 24

200m Final (Men, Women) 400m Final (Men, Women) 800m Final (Men, Women) 1500m Final (Men, Wom-

en) 110m Hurdles Final (Men) 100m Hurdles Final (Wom-

en)
Long Jump Final (Men,

Women)
Pole Vault Final (Men)
Shot-Put Final (Men, Women)

Javelin Final (Men, Wom-4x400m Relay Final (Men,

SF Team Proves It Has Right Stuff at WCC XXVIII

Snapshots Sizzle

ong Beach's Travelodge Marina Resort was the site of the West Coast Challenge XXVIII, held January 7-9. A large contingent of S.F. Pool Association Champions showed up and clashed with their Southern California counterparts.

counterparts.

The S.F. contingent typically has the toughest travelling task, as the team needs to arrive in the Southland early arrive in the Southland early enough to play in contests that begin in the early afternoon. Scheduling of the multiple concurrent contests that comprise the West Coast Challenge falls to the host city, an unenviable task requiring flexibility from all participants. participants.

The West Coast Challenge was founded on an inter-city tournament between LA, SF and San Diego. San Francisco teams have established an al-most mythical domination of most mythical domination of the event. That spell seemed at least temporarily broken when SF's Champion Team, Rick Mariana Photography Snapshots, was dominated by LA's Mr. Mike's, who proved unstoppable in a 9-4 thrashing that left the 'shots within a single match loss of elimination. Open Individuals

As the Women's Tournament got underway, Mele De-Victoria was the only SF player to survive Friday's early rounds undefeated. Still, desire the defeated. despite the defeats, another contest got under way Friday afternoon with the newly expanded 32 player Open Individuals Contest. The first shocker of that event was delivered by the lowest SF livered by the lowest SF seed, Denise Catanach, who stunned LA's top seeded Scott Holecek in their first round clash. Mark Miller and Wally Sutherland were SF's only other first round win-ners. All three would become victims in their second round

matches.

Saturday dawned with
SF's hopes being battered.
Still, the team managed to focus on victory over Long
Beach, who fell victim (9-2) to San Diego on Friday. The host city's Champion's were eliminated, 9-3, and attention eliminated, 9-3, and attention turned to the winner's brack-et battle, LA vs. San Diego. The two teams played well, battling to an 8-8 knot that would be decided in a single tie-breaker game. San Diego won the match, sending them to the finals while LA offered SF a rematch later Saturday afternoon.

> teams have established mythical domination of the Challenge.

Open Individuals' action saw the field thinning out with each successive round.

One by one the SF hopefuls fell, Mark Miller, Ben Napili, fell, Mark Miller, Ben Napili, Mark Sharpe, Denise Catanach and Jack Dunbar. All were gone by the third losers' bracket round. Wally Sutherland was the next to be eliminated, leaving SF's No. 6 seed, Torri Connelly, as our last open Individuals contestant. tant

On Sunday, the Snapshots faced the unbeaten San Diego team in two successive matches. They fell to a 3-1 deficit. San Diego kept this a close game, but in the end it was a 9-7 win for SF, one that would force the tie-breaking match

match.

By the time the final team match began the other contests had been decided, with Long Beach's Jonnie LeMaster winning her first Women's Title and Long Beach's Benny Misa besting LA's Frank Bustamente for his first Open Individuals Title. LA's Joe

Driebus and Don Lee claimed

the Hi-Low tournament title Zalta prevails

All eyes were focused on the team final, in which both teams played to a 4-4 score at half time, and a 5-5 thereafter. Only Elliot Zalta seemed infallible as his awesome shotmaking and stunning position play drew squeals of delight and hearty applause from the crowd. Zalta put the Snapshots on the hill.

Team sponsor, Rick Mari-

Team sponsor, Rick Mariani handled the honor of the final run-out in which SF continued its amazing domination of the WCC team

It should come as no sur-prise that Elliot Zalta was named the team's MVP for his outstanding performance, which included eight table runs, 10 consecutive wins, and

an 11-2 contest record.

The Spring '94 season is getting under way. Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

Sports Guide

Basketball

San Francisco Slammers women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931.

Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2710.

Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club promotes noncompeti-tive cycling for men and women on both road and mountain bikes. Rides each weekend, plus regular "Deweekend, plus regular "Decide and Ride" each Sunday at 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. For scheduler of the control ule or newsletter, please call (415) 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, San Francisco, CA

Boating
Barbary Coast Boating
Club — gay boat owners and
enthusiasts meet the 3rd
Wednesday of every month, 7
p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club,
Berkeley Marina West to the
end of University Ave., #1
Seawall Drive, (415) 905-6267.

Bodybuilding

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and les-bians; all skill levels are wel-come. Call Greg at 585-2365.

Football

matches

Women's Flag Football: Interested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

(415) 4/9-1131.

San Francisco Trojans
Football. Two games every
Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.,
at Silver Terrace near Silver
and Bayshore, SF. All skill
levels welcome. Call Gary at
344-8873.

Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club

— Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline:

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

Racquet and Paddle

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — John McEnhill, 864-0187, extension 4. Infor-mal social doubles every Sat-urday and Sunday morning at the Flint and 16th Street tencourts, weather permit-

nis courts, weather permitting.

Table Tennis Anyone?
Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30
p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF.
Call Allen Balderson, 6261787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Running

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No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954. San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966. Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

(Continued on page 50)

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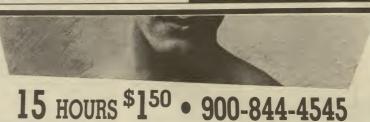
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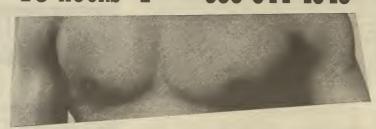
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LIVE TALK or TALKING PERSONALS



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LOCAL GAY-OWNED AND OPERATED

ULTIMATE RECEIVER - NO. CALIFORNIA



GWM, 35, Br/BI, 6'3', 310, full of ots of love so if you are 21-37, good shape and wanta to have a relationship w/John Goodman type. EXT 1987.

Oral service for tops with 8' by GWM, young 40's, 6'1', 170, Walnut Creek area/ SF good too. EXT 1988.

Masculine goodlooking, GWM, 42, wants Latino/Black/Puerto Rican who likes his body worshiped. EXT 1990.

Butch, Blond, moustached,38, 5'9', 140 lbs, versatile, uninhibited, mature and very good lay. HIVneg and looking for LTR with a dark or silver hair, stache for real men in their 30-40,s. EXT 1991.

BarTalk

ersonal

So. Alemeda county, HIVneg, cock hungry worshiper, mid-thirties, love to suck the juice out of young stiff cocks. Are you up for it? EXT 2018

Butt - boner: 37 yo GWM, 5'8', 140, bottom desires top to put boner up butt. EXT 2049.

Hot blk muscular guy into ff top/bottom kinds toys. 3 wa video. EXT 2050.

Goodlooking WM, 33, hung big seeks gklkng guys, 160, 5'11', clean cut and work out four times weekly. EXT 2052

Concord WM will massage GAM's in only, no \$. Tongue fingers oil or lotion, you choose. Just ask. Open to most

Attention men over 50. Bad boy, 57, big thick tool needs whipping and loving. I'll make you feel great. I always do as i'm told. EXT 2055.

Kinky GWM wanted for slutty Hawaiian into sneakers (basketball hightops), white sox, jeans, jockstraps, white underwear for j/o, suck sessions. Let's explore our fantasy. EXT 2057.

Exp'd cocksucker wnts your cum on reg basis. if you are trim, W/L, 15-45 with 8' plus. Nust be clean, discrete, Bi/G/STR. EXT 2058. Beefy well built 38yo WM seeks

beefy, stocky, well built masc guy to tongue fuck my suck bubble butt or GWM, HIVneg, 48, attr wants huge, nice cocks to suck on like a pacifier sks dom convervative men, 36-60. E Bay. I'm hirsute, clean. EXT2060.

GWM, 50, into voyerism, body worship and JO seeks heavily muscled WM over 35 for mutually rewarding goodtimes. EXT 2061.

hungry to service good looking guys with big hard cut cocks. I am 40yo trim, attractive and discreet. EXT

Hairy blonds and redheads drive this dark, hairy, musc man crazy!
Pecwork, JO, and lots of chest to chest, crotch to crotch grinding!

Hot Italian cumfreak and asseater seeks ot and horny men for regular sessions. call for description. Avail days and eves. EXT 2065.

33yo Filipino, 5'11', 210, Blk/brn, lite smooth skin desires hairy chested hunk to lay back and unload. Mid Peninsula Area only. EXT 2066.

Truly handsome, laidback, oral expert seeks slender, well hung male and/or petite female. Oral sex is my specialty. I have a deep hot throat and an extra long tongue. Spread your legs and prepare to get amazed. HIVneg and squeeky clean only. EXT

Two goodlooking 32yo WM,s hung big (8.5 and 9plus seek third for group anction. Prefer inshape and hung guys. Tops a plus. EXT 2067.

GLM, 5'4', 135, 37yo, bottom very horny and hungry seeks white tops for fun and possible relationship. EXT 2068.

In shape WM, 5'11', hung big needs other well blt WM hairy body with a big firm hairy bubble butt that wants agressive tongue and cock. EXT

Muscular big chest, big legs, hung looking for like body type B/W for long sensual erotic sex. Leather harness adds to the anticipation. EXT 2070.

Brown hanky top. Aggressive, muscular brown hanky top looking for a handsome, hungry mouth to feed Experience preferred. EXT 2071.

Transgender

Gorgeous bedroom TV in langergie seeks well hung man with place to play in SF. or Marin. Very discreet and very trainable. EXT 1989.

STR WM seeks TV, very feminine for first time. Want to have your cock all nite. Gentle lovemaking to your body, am hot will answer all. EXT 2073.

Bisexual

Hot sexy WM seeks S.F. with strap on to teach me the joys of anal sex also love to masturbate for you. Safe and fun, poppers. EXT 1849.

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR BARTALK MESSAGES TODAY. THERE COULD BE A DREAM DATE JUST WAITING FOR YOU. CALL TODAY.

Hot Bi Guy, 32, 5'10', 150, smooth lean build,soft bedroom eye , endowed seeks a male/female/couple for mutual play. Mild to wild. EXT 1949.

BM, 6'1', 185, muscular, hung clean shaven seeking Bisexual, Straight hung WM, Latinos, mid-20's to satisfy orally. EXT 1950.

Bi-AM seeks masc Bi/STR AM, Latino under 45, musc healthy w/hot dick. I'll tongue massage your crotch, armpit. Safe sex, clean. HIVneg. EXT

Couples

GWM 33, seeking hot couples or duos /groups for mutual sexual fulfillment. I am into Black/Latino dark skinned men, really like to get into butt play , voyeurism, exhibitionism, toys, and other kink, permanant relationship poss. EXT 2034.

Hot couple Latino/ Cuacasian, 32/33, into toys, hands, butts, love to party, allnighters seeking hot men who get into the same. We are hot you be hot too. Leave a hot message. EXT

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BarTalk Personals and the **BarTalk Bulletin Board**



Two great ways to meet. Make a connection today Call 1-900-844-2227.

Dicksucker: GWM to svc GLM/GWM with 7'or more, your place. I'm experienced, 40's. You're trim, 18-45, no big bellies, kickback! No recip: HIVpos. EXT 2008.

Are you a younger Asian who appereciated an older WM? I'm 59 hung, horny, healthy, HIVneg. Not fat, not bald, not bad. EXT 2010.

GWM. 41, 6'3', slim, blond, blue, stache, HlVneg seeks HlVneg AM, seek 25-50 for mutual pleasure perhaps more. Evenings, Chinatown location. EXT 2011.

Looking for expert to worship my beautiful clean Asian body. I am 28,, 5'8', 135. EXT 2013.

ou do bodywork. GWM, 5'11', 165, yery well built, 25, 165 kneads a deep massage. You: strong, happy passionate, 22-38. EXT 2014.

Intact male wanted for hot 69, erotic play. ME: WM, 36, fit, toned, you be similar but you have foreskin. Latainos and dark skin a plus. EXT 2015.

to meet people right now1-800-844-2227

.98 cents per minute

Tough enough? You're lean, musc, hard-bodied. Attr, strong GWM will wrestle you to the ground, maybe tie you up, and thououghly work you over. Safe, sane, limits respected. EXT 2016.

Fuck buddy wanted. You: 18-40, under 185, eager mouth/ass, affectionate, non-smoker into w/s. Me: GWM, 48, hung, sensuous. Black, Hispanic, big balls a plus.EXT

PLACE YOUR FREE AD IN THE BARTALK PERSONALS TODAY. JUST FILL OUT THE BARTALK ORDER FORM AND SENTD IT IN. DEADLINE IS ALWAYS THURSDAY AT 5:00PM FOR THE FOLLOWING THURSDAY'S ISSILE EINIDING LOYELS EASY. FINDING. LOVE IS EASY WITH BARTALK

BM, HIVneg, 59yo, 9'UC wants submissive, deepthroated cumfread masseur. Older, hung, pro-sword swallower a plus. Your looks unimportant. EXT 2023.

Athletic Legs owner will receive cocksucking seminar. EXT 2024

to give my total body to a warm healthy son. G/A/B/WM. I am ready for you anytime after 4:00pm weedends and holidays. Waiting.

Me: Blond, flattop, handlebar stache, 38, 140, 5'9'; HIVneg and always ready for raunchy manly sex. You; Short hair,moustache, handsome hunk who knows how to keep the games in the bedroom. EXT 2026.

Three way, GWM, 41/GLM, 34,in shape looking for GA/LM, in shape Sex only. EXT 2006.

39 to WM seeking non-anal HIVneg man. Me: 5'7', 145, BB, nonsmoker, Enjoy quiet moments and intimacy with one special friend. EXT

Be My Lestat. Forget Cruise. Fly over the Golden Gate, share your other worldly powers, sleep all day, love all night. Your Louis awaits. EXT 2032.

You can leave your hat on, you can leave your boots on, you can leave your jacket on, you can leave your jacket on, You can leave your jeans on. Call to find what to remove EXT 2048.

New ads will be published in the following Thursday's issue and will run for three weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave a message in your mailbox and how to retrieve messages left for you.

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MAIL TO: BAY AREA REPORTER, 395 9TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94103

BarTalk

BarTalk ads are active from Jan. 20-26. Available only in the Bay Area on touchtone phones. Each call is just .98¢ per minute. You must be at least 18 years old.

1-900-844-2227

Naughty or Nice?

Women seeking adventure

Cute, petite, slim and very athletic WW seeks a cute woman of color to have have fun and who knows a possible relationship with. I would like to have coffee and talk to woman of substance. EXT 2029.

GHF, 28, professional, N/S, lives for dancing, dining and romance, cute cuddly and kind seeks GHF of GWF under 40 who loves loves dancing and hates mind games, leans toward the feminine side, EXT 2030.

GWF soft/butch looking for a fiminine but aggresive woman with a great sense of humor, mature and comfortable with sexuality. EXT 2031

Men seeking relationships

GWM, E Bay, 6', 185, 41, thinning Bl/Gr hair. Somewhat hairy, 34w, 44c. Enjoy wt lifting, bike riding, music, movies. You top, 35-40, Hl/neg. Want LTR. EXT 1952. 21yo Blk M searching for young Asian for fun, talking possible relationship. Must be 15-25, musc, athletic, good att. Vallejo area. EXT 1953.

AM, 26, fit out going, honest seeks guys under 30 for movier, dancing, dining, laughter. EXT 1954.

Attractive Latin men, 50-65 sought by very handsome boy, 27, with very cute buns and smooth tan skin, decent dressing. No jeans please. EXT 1955.

Shy GAM, 28, 5'10', 142, HIVneg, attractive seeks GWM, 20-35, shy honest, HIVneg for LTR or friendship. FXT 1956

Wheelchair guy soon to be Lawyer seeks big hearted, self esteem, sincere guy to share enriching loving happiness and life, EXT 1957.

GWM, 5'8', 160lbs, Br/Bl very attr HIVneg seeking same for poss LTR. You must be hot. EXT 1959.

GBM HIVneg, 38, slim build 5'5', boyish face seeks hung attractive Black slim built 20-45 for friendship. Call. Let's get together. Ext 1960.

Big guy seeks Asian, Hispanic, Anglos under 35 for a LTR. Let me hold you, caress you, please you! GWM, 30, 5'11'. Br/Br, 350, cln shvn, HIVneg. EXT 1961. GWM seeks top to service and oral first then fuck like crazy: A hot ass and eager mouth and only WM need apply. Size a plus, cum must. EXT 1963.

Distinctive, handsome, 46, GWM, discreet, shy, not into, gay bars, seek friend, poss LTR, in Vallejo, waiting for you. UR young willing, safe sex. EXT 1966.

HIVpos top wanted. Needs dark hair, brown eyes, moustache. Any age , race, or size. Blonde, blue, 31, handsome needs boyfriend for funtimes and romance. EXT 1993.

l am 32 thirsty for love, affectionate, stable seeking man over 58, stocky a plus. Please call.EXT 1994

GPM, B/Br, 28, 5'7', 60, beard, stache, HIVneg, sks int hairy, Med, Lat, Mideast, 30-45, or Bob Hoskins look alike, enjoy trvl, intr'l music adventure. EXT 1995.

GWM, 39, hairy, husky, balding, mustache seeks guy 20-30 with attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. I'm 5'9', 190, HIVneg. EXT 1997.

wrap it up, wrap it up, wrap it up

Financial Distirct blond dad seeks bright eager lad to learn from bedroom to boardroom. I'm HIVpos, smoker. Live in possible. EXT 1998.

Irish AM top, 43, big guy, hairy, heavy, easygoing wants Latino/Brasiliano masculine bottom, 25-40, HIVneg, good natured companero. In my arms. EXT 1999.

GWM, nasty dad, 6'4', 250, hairy chest seeks nasty son 20-30 for LTR. Son must like to orally service dad's entire body. Kinky mind!!! EXT 2000.

GWM, 33yo, slim wants sex or relationship with Asian, Latin, White, 25-40. Let's see what happens. EXT 2002.

GWM, 19 seeks GAM, 18-29, for dating, poss LTR. N/S, N/D, HIVneg, no attitude only please. I'm honest, shy, caring. Call me, Let's talk. EXT 2003.

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR BARTALK MESSAGES TODAY. THERE COULD BE A DREAM DATE JUST WAITING FOR YOU. CALL TODAY.

Hi. I am looking for romantic times as well as sexual love between us both. I am 50yo, br/bl, hung, warm, clean and healthy. EXT 2004.

Friendship and more. GWM, 33yo, 5'9', 130lbs, looking for real people 25-40 to dance, movies, quiet times with. No games please. EXT 2005.

3 way. GWM, 41/ GLM, 34 in shape looking for GAM or GLM in shape. Sex only. EXT2006.

Like to travel? Cancun, Rome, Paris? Like opera and classical music? GWM, HIVneg, 38, 5'6', 130 UB2, for LTR. EXT 2007. 39yo WM seeking non-anal HIVneg man. Me 5'7', 145lbs, B/B, nonsmoker enjoy quiet moments and intimacy with one special friend. EXT 2028.

GWM, 32, blond mustache, bottom, hot butt seeks GWM, 25-45 top for hot sex. No drugs or trolls. Relationship for regular encounters desired EXT 2027

E Bay ckskr spends 150 percent of his time on his knees wants humil from local boy. Use paddle to direct focus and motivate GWM, 44, musc. EXT 2034.

Masculine GWM, 33, 6'2', 170 seeks WM under 40 for dating/relationship. Are you athletic HIVneg, easygoing, handsome? Cal me! EXT 2035.

Oakland GWM bottom, 39, seeks GBM top. Open but not limited to LTR. East Bay only. EXT 2036.

Muscular, butch, body but deep inside you're a daddy's boyl WM, 43, 6'2', 180, hung seeks serious LTRI Older, small endowed. Okayl HIVneg only. EXT2037.

Oral romance— tall GWM, 46, smoker, HIVneg cut and hard lkng 4 a tall GWM, 40-54, smoker. HIVneg, cut 4 oral and spiritual growth. EXT 2038.

GWM bottom seeks GBM top to realize lifetime desires. I'm a young fit, 50, slim, fair, smooth and sensuous. We are HIVneg, health conscious, sane and prefer something ongoing. EXT 2039.

Big GWM, 32, 6'3', 285, average looking, relationship oriented. You L/A M. Likes movies, dinner quiet times. Your looks not important but heart is. EXT 2040.

Hot in shape GWM, 31, Br/Br, 140 seeks hot muscular man, 20-45, any race. I'm fun, safe, HIVneg, you too, pls. BB a pls. EXT 2041.

Paraplegic? seeking Gay.Bi, B/L/Am for para friends? Dating? GWM para 38, BL/GR red beard/stache, hairy chest. EXT 2042.

Horny? Ready for my mouth and tongue to excite your cock and balls and to bust your nut? Body rub too. Me: HIVneg, HT/WT prop. UB2. EXT 1968.

BJ buddy. Clean, in shape, any race, masc, gay, bi, straight, 18-35, handsome, healthy. 4-6', cut. Versatile, discreet, hot satisfaction, FYT 1969

49y.o. white top, 9'cock seeks young white muscular bottoms who want thier tight asses fucked by older, experienced man. EXT 1971.

Hot mouth in the city for Latin , Asian or Philipino top men who love to have thier feet service. Me: 33, 5'10', 170, 33, jocks ok too. EXT 1972.

Black male wanted by attractive GWM, 25, Blonde looking for a physically fit, masculine and romantic man under 35 and HIVneg. EXT 1973.

Aussie guy, 32, blonde, hazel, 6', 8' cut, HIVneg, shaved cock and balls into getting sweaty, nice butt. One on one or groups. EXT 1974.

My SWM friend wants to watch gay love- maybe join in. Why should I choose you to help me put on this show? EXT 1975.

Wanted: young goodlooking, longhaired guys who will get naked to receive the best cocksucking and ass eating experience ever. EXT 1976.

Ass massage, lite spank me: attractive GWM, 43, 6'5', 280. You Attractive, GWM, 18-35, slim with nice buns. You need it bad. You won't be dissappointed. EXT 1978.

Do you dig JO, dirty talk, C/B worship, partying one on one? Late night, East Bay. Not fuck/suck scene. Masculine only. No curiousity seekers. EXT 1979.

East Bay one on one heavy mutual jo, dirty talk, C/B worship partying freak seeks hung guys for intense trip. Not fuck/suck trip. Buddy to buddy. EXT 1980.

BARTALK AD OF THE WEEK

Muscular, big chest, big legs, hung looking for like body type B/W for long sensual erotic sex. Leather harness adds to the anticipation. EXT 2070.

GWM, 39, bottom, 6', 165, looking for well hung African-American men, 35-50 for fucking and other sexual play. EXT 2043.

You big Bearl The more muscular you get, more dick you must suck! Me: GBM, 510', 230, W/beard and hung. Tit/ass play. In Marin. HIVneg only. EXT 2044.

GAM tall, 32, 235, smkr nice guy still seeking LTR with chubby GW/A/Lm who is jovial, gd natured, caring, 35-55, HMMM...EXT 2045.

Wheelchair guy soon to be lawyer seeks big hearted, high self esteem, sincere guy to share enriching loving happiness and life. EXT 2046.

Men seeking adventure

Palo Alto GAM, 33, 210, seeks hairy bodied guy under 50 in my area to suck off, violate my tight buns. EXT 1967.

Butt ugly men, nerds, geeks sought for mutual JO dirty talk, C/B worship. MY place(oakland), late night. Not fuck/suck /top/ bottom. EYT 1981

Sink your hand into the fleshy depth of my hungry butthole open wide and juicy for fuckin huge cocks, cute 39, white, 6', 170. EXT 1982.

Paranormal experience? Psychic? M too. Let's talk. Blessed be. FXT 1983.

Fantasies about barednucks prize fighting in the 1860's, American West? Gladiators? 1950's Pro wrestling? Gladiators? Fight scenes? Let's talk. EXT 1984.

Bootlicker dog slave needed for masc, mature, virile, HIVneg master. Must be excel C/S, asseater/ husky ex-football player build. Novice okay. EXT 1985.

Salt and pepper makes two and a little spice makes three. We are a Gay Black and Italian couple, 32/52, seeking an aggressive man, 20-40 to spend a little time with and get to know better. EXT 1986.

ONLY
1-900-844-2227

MEET MEN AND WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE BAY AREA! THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE BARTALK PERSONALS AND THE BARTALK BULLETIN BOARD!

FRIDAY 28

Action
Berkeley Theatre Project's spin on Sam Shepard's off-kilter one-act about doing things and the failure to do them. Since they're performing it twice each night with the women and men switching parts, it also explores gender roles in an amusing way. \$8-12. 8pm. Thru 2/13. Climate Theater, 252 9th St. at Folsom & Howard. 626-9196.

Burn This Kudzu Theatre's production of Lanford Wilson's funny and sexy play about a torrid straight affair between a restaurateur and a dancer (and her gay roommate). \$7-10. Thru 2/12. Brainwash Theatre, 1126 Folsom at 7th. 995-4778.

The Dyke and the Porn Star Bayla Travis' duo show about erotic perspectives on passion. If she makes you hot, can she make you happy? \$7. 10:30pm. Fridays thru Jan. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.

Fences
Egypt Theatre's production of
August Wilson's play about
several generations of a black
family in the '50s. \$6-8. 8pm.
Egypt Theatre, 5306 Foothill
Blvd. at Fairfax, Oakland. (510)
436-4877.

I Came Upon a Midnight Queer Trash/art/porn through the century from those \$.99 Queer Video folk, plus videos of Beat Mistress, Coil & punk bands. \$3 & up. Sliding scale. A benefit for Phabian's Freeks, SF International Lesbian & Gay Film Fest. Midnight. Komotion, 2779 16th at Folsom. 864-5453.

Living Room Festival
Eclectic mix of locally made
video shorts, including Liz
Canning's strange montage,
Hand Mirror/Brush Set Included,
an off take on gender imagery
(which includes scenes from
Deep Throat!). 11pm. KQED
Channel 9.

Ramaison Suspendue
Renowned Canadian playwright
Michel Tremblay's lyrical play
about three generations in one
Quebecois family, with a few
queer folk in it. \$14-16. 8pm.
Sun. at 2pm. Actors Theatre,
533 Sutter. 296-9179.

The Man With Straight Hair
World premiere of George
Birimisa's new play about two
ex-lover roommates in the
Bowery of the '50s. \$12.
7:30pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru
2/13. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926
16th at Mission. 861-5079.

Midsummer Night's Dream
Measure for Measure
Shakespeare & Co.'s production
of two great Shakespeare plays
in repertory, \$10, 8pm. Sun. at
7pm. Thru 1/30. YMCA
Theater, 220 Golden Gate Ave.
at Leavenworth. 267-6165.

Queer Thinking
Minneapolis performer Patrick
Scully brings his characters
Tonya (drag queen spin-off of
Patty Hearstl, Passion Fruit
(insightful radical faerie) to the
stage for a foray into the
identity of being bent. \$10-12.

8pm. Thru 1/30. Josie's, 16th
at Market. 861-7933.

The Secretaries
Direct from New York, Five Lesbian Brothers perform their insane new comedy about Big Bone, Oregon, and a lumber mill run by smart high-heeled, high-haired secretaries who binge on Slimfast and kill lumberjacks. \$10-20. 8pm. Sat. at 5pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 2/19. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th at Mission. 861-5079.

Steve Moore LA's home for this unique comic, the only gay openly HIV-positive stand-up, who recently was on the Out There comedy special. Also comic Breck VandenBerghe. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933

Chesty Baker You didn't know Chet had a wife? Neither did he, but she sings cool jazz and ballads. With dinner it's a perfect date! \$7. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. at Florida. 863-4177.

Country Western Dance San Francisco Fringe Riders presiding. \$10-15. Lessons: 7-8:30pm. Dancing full til afterwards. The Women's Bidg., 3543 18th St. (510) 436-4479.

Gay Comedy Night Steve Moore, Suzy Berger, Karen Ripley. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Girl Spot Dance benefit for WOMAN, Inc. (Women Organized to Make Abuse Nonexistent). \$6. 9pm. 995 Harrison at 6th. 648-1462.

No Bad Girlfriends
Spoken word show with Lynn
Breedlove of Tribe 8, filmmaker
Greta Snider, Mark Pritchard,
Allison Hennessy and the
indomitable Kris Kovick. \$5. 7
& 9pm. Red Dora's Bearded
Lady, 485 14th at Guerrero.

Wicked City (FRI.)

SUNDAY 30

Broke Blues with torch singers, poets and drag queens. \$4. 8pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 863-3321.

D.J. Lebowitz Rockin' piano player does everything from Black Flag to the Monkees. \$5 (\$15 with all-u-can-eat yummy pastal. 10pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St at Florida. 863-4177.

Landscape Into Art Group exhibition of artists from NIAD (National Institute of Art Art Art Stabilities). Thru 2/28. Florence Ludins-Katz Gallery, 551 23rd St., Richmond. (510) 620-0290.

Martha Graham:
A Legend in Her Time
Photography exhibit of Imogen
Cunningham and Barbara
Morgan's documentation of the
great choreographer's dances.
Thru 4/9. SF Palm Gallery, 399
Grove St. 255-4800.

The Queen's Throat Wayne Koestenbaum reads from his book about "Opera, Homosexuality & the Mystery of Desire." 3:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Damn Nation

KQED shows its merit (again) with the broadcast of Damned in the U.S.A., BBC filmmaker Paul Yule's documentary of censored art and artists (like Robert Mapplethorpe, right), and the foaming at the mouth attacks by windbag Jesse Helms and Donald Wildmon, a demon in the flesh if ever there was one. The NEA four may have gotten their money, but the fight is far from over. KQED, Channel 9, January 31, 10pm. Whil you're at it, call KQED with a little thank you for showing the film Wildmon tried to get censored after he realized what a fool he made of himself in this Emmy Award-winning film.

Gender Gap

Resplendently risen to the top of the drag heap, Lypsinka returns to Josie's once again for a special run of her new show, Lysnings!

As I Lay Lip-synching, in which the aging diva prepares for her transition from musical comedy star to "mature actress." Be there for all the taped one-liners and campy tunes, to say nothing of her scintillating gowns. February 1-27 at 8pm. Extra 10pm shows on Fridays. \$15. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

The Sum of Us
David Stevens' pleasant story
of a Melbourne soccer-playing
gay son and his coming out to
his blue-collar dad. \$8.24.
8pm. Sun, at 2 & 7pm. Thru
2/13. Marin Theatre Company,
397 Miller Ave., Mill Valley.
388-5200.

Those Damn Calla Lilies
Artfull Circle Theatre has
concocted another play version
snatched from a film classic,
this time Stage Door. Connic
Champagne stars. \$20. 8pm.
Sun. at 7pm. Thru 2/27. 6265455.

Up Off the Floor
Big House Productions' one-act
play about the roots of
domestic violence. Donations
encouraged. Proceeds benefit
La Casa de las Madres, a shelter
for battered women. 8pm. Thru
1/29. Intersection for the Arts,
446 Valencia. 626-3311.

Why Things Burn
Marlane Meyer's comedy about
the nature of evil, radical men
with maps to stars' homes,
chips on their shoulders, and
matches to burn. \$17-21.
8:30pm. Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm.
Thru 2/13. Magic Theatre, Fort
Mason Center. 441-8822.

Wicked City
Stylish psychosexual animated thriller flick from Japan about a parallel dimension which houses an invasion of shape changers. Extremely sexual and violent. Not for kids. \$5.50. Also Sat. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

SATURDAY 29

A&M Records Family Portrait
Campy tribute to the label that
brought us so many '70s
classics. The evening is a
benefit for the upcoming
production of Love is Blue, The
Claudine Longet Story, a
musical starring Flynn as the
gun-toting singer, with Connie
Champagne, Leigh Crow,
Marzipan and others. \$5:10.
9pm. Bernice St. Playhouse,
12th St. btwn. Folsom &
Harrison. 863-5946.

Amnesia
Beth B, alternative video artist
and performer since the '70s,
presents a multimedia
installation and retrospective
video screening, with taped
performances by Jack Smith,
Lydia Lunch, Robbie McCauley,
John Lurie. Thru 2/19. New
Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom
btwn. 8th & 9th. 626-5416.

Bewitched, The Play New theatrical version of the old TV show. Proceeds go to the HIV Touring Project. \$15. 8pm. Closing night. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Bob Flanagan:Super Masochist Unique performance artist and subject of the latest Re/Search publication, known for doing strange and violent things to his body, will share his thoughts and ideas (we're not sure if he'll nail himself to anything this time). Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

while Josh is strung out (The Sound of Music, The Mathematics of Change both THU) 1433 agu



Scott Siedman "Love Over Death," an exhibit of six artworks. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes. 626-1936.

Son of 99 Cent Queer Videos The fabulous underground showcase is back with more taped talents. 8pm. Backroom at 173 Clara. 227-0553.

Uncle Vanya
New translation of Anton
Chekov's deceptively simple
and comic play about the life of
the residents at a remote
country estate. \$12-38. 8pm &
2pm. Thru 3/6. Marines
Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter at
Mason. 749-2ACT.

Minnie Pearl Necklace Kooky country in a queer kind of drag way, with new band member Jonny Getches on piano. \$2. 9:30pm. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market at Sanchez. 861-5016.

Shock Video Night
The most offensive videos
known to humanity. \$3.
8:30pm. (Warning: there are a
lot of twisted voyeurs in this
town. This event always sells
out) Elbo Room, Valencia near
17th. 552-7788.

TUESDAY 1

Gay Short Stories
Contributors to the Penguin
Books of Lesbian (and Gay)
Short Stories will read,
including editor David Leavitt.
Free, 7:30pm. A Different Light,
489 Castro. 431-0891.

Jonathan Parker Exhibit of portraits by the self-taught Oakland painter. Thru 2/26. Intersection for the Arts Gallery, 446 Valencia. 626-2787.

Who's Afraid of Red, Blue, Yellow, Green & Orange? Keith Boadwey's bololly colored images of nipples, dicks and butthairs enlarged to gargantuan proportions. Thru 2/5. SF Camerawork, 70 12th. 621-1001.

THURSDAY 3

Coming Home Hospice Bingo Play and raise funds for the hospice. \$12 buy-ins. 7pm. 100 Diamond St. 552-7454.

Critical Mass
Diverse exhibit of figurative painting, sculpture and photography. Opening reception tonight, with appetizers from Canvas Cafe. Portion of proceeds from the sale of art goes to Shanti Project. Thru 2/6. Opts Art Gallery, 250 4th St., 2nd Fl. 546-7846.

Ellen Orleans Author of Can't Keep a Straight Face reads. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Giselle
San Joe Cleveland Ballet's
production of the classic dance,
accompanied by the San Jose
Symphony, \$12-50, 7:30pm.
Also matinees. Thru 2/6. San
Jose Center for the Performing
Arts. (408) 288-2800.

Hugh Shurley
Exhibit of mixed media collages,
modern in construction, but
classic in style. Thru 2/12.
John Pence Gallery, 750 Post
St. 441-1138.

Images of AIDS
Exhibit of photographic portraits
of PWAs by Dr. Robert Neger.
Thru March. New Conservatory
Theatre Art Gallery, 25 Van
Ness. 861-4914.

Ness. 861-4914.

The Mathematics of Change
Josh Kombluth's one-man show
about his school years as a
hopeful math whiz. He also
performs Haiku Tunnel, a
comical depiction of the terrors
of office life. Thru 2/27. Cable
Car Theatre, 430 Mason St.
\$18-20. 982-SHOW.

Nightbeat San Francisco
Theatrical collage of sketches
and songs with our city as its
subject. \$16-18. 8pm. Tapestry
Room Theatre, San Francisco
Press Club, 555 Post St. 9058877.

Oakland Ballet
Mixed repertory program of
classics, including Leonide
Massine's Gaite Parisienne, Lou
Christensen's Nothin' Doin' Bar,
and Eugene Loring's The Tender
Land, with music by Aaron
Copeland, \$8-39 Thru 2/5.
8pm. Also Sun. at 2pm.
Paramount Theatre, 2025
Broadway, Oakland. (510) 762BASS.

Sharon M. Wickham Photos from her ''Private Collection.'' Thru 2/20. Architects & Heroes, 2239 Fillmore St. 921-8383.

The Sound of Music Marie Osmond as the notoriously wholesome Von Trapp. Beyond camp. Orpheum Theatre, 192 Market at Hyde. 776-1999.

Urban Images
Photography by Native
Americans and Hawaiians.
Thru 3/5. American Indian
Contemporary Arts, Monadnock
Bldg. 685 Market. 495-7600.

Weegee
Photo exhibit of work by the artist known for documenting New York's grisly murders, glorious drag queens and gritty inhabitants. Opening reception 6-8pm. Thru 3/26. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. 621-2107.

White Women, Race Matters
"The Social Construction of
Whiteness" and, through
feminism, the dismantling of it
as being a "norm," as discussed
by author Ruth Frankenberg,
\$3-10. 8pm. Old Wives' Tales,
1009 Valencia. 821-4676.

MONDAY 31

Gay Comedy Open Mike Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

dcast of ul Yule's Robert mouth /ildmon, he NEA

WEDNESDAY 2

Addressing Herself
Group exhibition of works by
women about female sexuality,
fetishism, self-representation
and transformation. Opening
reception 5:30-7:30pm. Thru
3/5. The Lab, 1807 Divisadero.
346-4063.

Between
Thumb and Forefinger
Barbara DeGenevieve's exhibit
of work exploring sexuality,
gender images and age
differences. Thru 2/19. Eye
Gallery, 1151 Mission. 431-

Flesh and Blood Photographers' images of their families, including gay artists Duane Michals, David Hockney and Annie Leibovitz. 100 prints by 50 artists, an amazing collection. Thru 3/6. The Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Lesbian & Gay Film Class
Daniel Mangin shows rare and popular screen clips and features with queer themes. This week: the 1931 Maedchen in Uniform & Lenin Riefenstahl's Day of Freedom. \$49. Screenings thru June. 6:30pm. Everett Middle School, 17th & Church. Also 2-5pm, Wed. & Thu., City College, Cloud Hall, Rm. 247. 239-3383.

Ball Busters

This January 30, a queer can't even go to a gay bar without everybody acting like idiots screaming over a bunch of jocks fumbling for a rubber ball (of course, I wouldn't mind a few jock fumblings over me with a rubber). The Superbowl is upon us, complete with million dollar commercials and an orgy of patriotism (Michael Jackson will not perform this year). As a smart alternative to the day when spousal abuse is at an all-time high, the National Self-Defense Alliance presents a workshop for women in techniques for fighting back. Noon to 6pm, Academy of Tae Kwon Do, 988 Oak St. \$50. 864-4827. Go for the cup. With your knee.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Grilled Chicken Breast with rosemary-garlic marinade served on a bed of linguini with basil pesto ..8.95

Hangtown Fish Fry — lightly breaded snapper, calamari, shrimp and oysters with cajun tarter sauce & red dipping sauce 8.95

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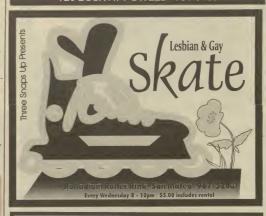
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AREA REPORTER

Mr. Marcus

Mr. Mid-Atlantic, Part II

he cold spell that in-undated the entire Eastern seaboard two weekends ago made it impossible for me to get back to SF in time to get pho-tos of the winners of the 9th Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest in the paper. I apologize if I caused readers any undue agitation. When they close the airport and cancel all flights, there's no way to meet a deadline. If it wasn't for fax machines, it's doubtful you'd have even gotten the results of the contest. It was termed an "act of God," so stranded at Washington National, we were forced to accept the hospitality of Frank Nowicki and his Big Jim McGlade!

McGlade!

In case you're confused, this was the 10th anniversary of the Centaur MC Leather Weekend and the ninth anniversary of the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest. In 1995, the Centaurs will celebrate their 25th anniversary. 1995, the Centaurs will celebrate their 25th anniversary as a club, the 11th anniversary of Leather Weekend and the 10th Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest, so big plans are already underway for this occasion. You will not want to miss it!

On the occasion of his first visit, Mr. SF-Eagle Leather Andy Rose was heard to opine: "I will not miss this \$30 bargain ever again. I'll attend every year 'till I drop!" Judging from his condition after a record-breaking weekend of

record-breaking weekend of debauchery, it's safe to say "Randy" Andy lived up to his name! That SF-Eagle vest

name! That SP-Eagle vest was seen everywhere!
Richard Benoit (pronounced "benoy"), the new Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather, will compete at IML in Chicago in May. He's a member of Baltimore's C.O.M.M.A.N.D. May. He's a member of Baltimore's C.O.M.M.A.N.D. (Corps of Men Making A Noticeable Difference), is 36 years old and has been into leather for some eight years. He's "domesticated" and employed as a medical administrator in Baltimore.

Dominating a field of 17 other contestants was not as easy as it looked, but Richard got good advice and obvious-

got good advice and obvious-ly impressed the judges. He lives in Baltimore but plans to visit San Francisco in the



Baltimore's Richard Benoit triumphed over 17 other contestants to win the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather title on Sunday, Jan. 16 in Washington, D.C. He's 36, a medical administrator, a member of C.O.M.M.A.N.D., and will compete for the IML title in Chicago next May.

near future, possibly at IMSL, so you'll get a chance to meet him.

The judging panel was comprised of foreign and domestic leather personalities, including Ms. NLA K.T. (Ms. Perfect Hair) Chase of Port-

The first runner-up, Victor Magide (Mr. Upstate New York) is from Rochester. Hearing impaired, Magide earlier was the first runner-up to Philip Rubin in the initial International Mr. Deaf Leather competition. His dark, sensual Cuban sultri-

Leather competition. His dark, sensual Cuban sultriness only adds to his pleasant, outgoing demeanor. It's probable that he will compete in Chicago in May and should do well if he gets there.

Possessing that deliciously tempting "boy next door" look, the second runner-up, Andy Borden, Mr. Spike New York, literally towered over all the other contestants. His elegant six-foot plus frame fits well into extremely sharp custom leather gear. Big man. Big crowd pleaser.

With all the coaching Andy's getting from seasoned leather men, he'll make a big impression in Chicago. We met at IML last year where he was observing the procedures protocol and inite day.

he was observing the procedures, protocol and joie de vivre of leather camaraderie prevalent at these functions. Another IML candidate to

keep an eye on.

It's safe to say Centaur

Leather Weekend 1994 was a Leather Weekend 1994 was a resounding success. Every-thing worked efficiently. This club is definitely a classic ex-ample of brotherhood, cama-raderie and community in-

ample of brotherhood, camaraderie and community involvement. The leather weekend has already earned over \$1 million dollars for charities. Washington Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly issued a proclamation declaring Januaty 14-16 "Centaur Motorcycle Club Leather Weekend" in the District. Bravol

The presence of over 100 bike clubs at the parade of "colors" attests to the popularity of the club. Special thanks to the DC-Eagle, the Green Lantern, Blue Penguin, Quorum, Mister P's, Fireplace, Tracks, Belmont Kitchen and Remington's. The two best kept secrets (hunks) in the District are bartenders Chuck Nottingham at Mr. P's and Rolando (very straight) at The Childe Harold on Bouffant Circle. Heart palpitations all around with these two pushing adult beverages! Both are the types of guys you'd feel comfortable bringing home to meet mother!

With all the host hotels hopelessly filled, I opted to stay at The Brenton, a very San Franciscoish Victorian bed and breakfast. It's located at 708 16th St. NW. At \$61 a night (four blocks from Dupont Circle), scrumptious

bed and breakfast. It's located at 708 16th St. NW. At \$61 an right (four blocks from Dupont Circle), scrumptious breakfast and a daily free cocktail (with free refill) at cocktail hour, you can't beat it! I highly recommend The Brenton. Great service!

Good show by all the other contestants: Mike Cairns, Ed Briggs, Jose Ucles, Ian McNeal, Bob Connolly, Ross Nadler, Thom Bradford, Bryan Oles, Jacques Oliveau, Barry Johnson, Robert Hughes, Alan Vance, Vince McEaghan, Pete Delate and Jeff Earl. Great group. You guys give good leather! And to all you dear readers, if you've never been to the Centaur MC weekend event, you should check it out. You have eleven months to make plans. THREE STARS * THREE STARS * THREE STARS * THREE STARS * THREE Since I was away from the campus longer than anticipated, I missed a few functions: the Gala for the Emperor and Empress candidates was a re-

Empress candidates was a re



Mid-Atlantic Leather winners (I. to r.): Mr. Upstate New York Victor Magide (1st runner-up), Richard Benoit (Mr. MAL '94) and Andy Gorden (Mr. Spike NY), 2nd runner-up. Chances are all three will compete at International Mr. Leather in Chicago.



Camp and circumstance for outgoing Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '93 Frank Nowicki in Washington, D.C. when he handed down his title on Sunday, Jan. 16. A parasol, tiara, royal pillow and a standing ovation

sounding success; the GDI's celebrated its 20th anniver-sary on Sunday, January 23 at the Galleon with a great turnout.

turnout.

Since the Krewe de Cuir cancelled their beer/soda bust at the Eagle last Sunday, the Rita Rockett Brunch Bunch took it over and earned hundreds for Ward 5.

Will there has Bal Macques

took it over and earned hundreds for Ward 5.

Will there be a Bal Masque this year, or is Vern Stewart destined to be the King of Leather for life? My Place bar issued an invitation last week for any and all artists to display their homoerotic (preferably male) art. Contact CB at 863-2329 if you think your work fits in.

Both the Eagle and the Watering Hole will stage a one night only contest to name Mr. SF-Eagle Leather and Mr. Watering Hole Leather. The Eagle's is on Friday, March 24; The Watering Hole stages its competition on Saturday, February 19th. No word yet on whether or not the Jackhammer or the Edge will stage a contest this Edge will stage a contest this

Affairs to Remember

Saturday, Jan. 29: Busy night. Ms. SF Leather Contest. Queen Cougar steps aside as Ms. SF Leather '93 tonight when the annual contest takes place at 174 King St. Doors open at 2000; show time is 2100. The theme is "Wild — A Night in the Jungle," and I understand the show will be torrid. Tix are \$12 advance, or buy a block of five at \$10 each. Dance till 0100 the next morning, and welcome in Ms. SF Leather 1994! Thanks, Queen Cougar, for a very edifying year! Across town at the Russian Center, the 10th ETVC (Educational TV Channel) extravaganza takes place as allegedly "straight" men vie for Ms. Cotillion, while their wives cheer them on from the sidelines. Doors open 1900; buffet at 1930; competition begins at 2000. \$20 advance, \$25 door.

door.

SF Fringe Riders celebrate their third anniversary at the Women's Bldg. with a party beginning at 1930. C&W music galore, dancing, frivolity and fun.

Tix are \$10 at Wild Wild West in SF, Mama Bears in Oakland, Boadecia's in Kensington — or call (415) 616-4674. Men are definitely welcome at this event. Sunday, Jan. 30: The SF-Eagle softball team (the 69ers) hosts the beer/soda bust today, with Lenny Broberg and Tommi Rose emceeing a butch dating game. \$8, 1500-1800, food, fun, cruising.

Monday, Jan. 31: Exhila-Monday, Jan. 31: Exhilarating photo show by Biron opens at Headquarters Bar tonight with a reception for the artist from 1800 to 2000. The exhibit contains leather, tattoos, piercing and other skin shots. Biron is no newcomer, having exhibited everywhere imaginable, and has an impressive reputation. Hangs until Feb. 28 — see it now!

mandatory. Call (415) 979-0242.
Thursday, Feb. 3: Looking for Mr. March 1995 on the Bare Chest Calendar beginning at 2130 tonight. Win \$100 and a spot on the 10th anniversary calendar that benefits the AIDS Emergency. Fund

that benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund.
Saturday, Feb. 5: Cal Eagles MC celebrates its 10th anniversary with an invitation/overlay soirce at the SP-Eagle, 1800-2100. A landmark occasion for this community-minded club. Entertainment and surprises galore, and you'll get to meet their new officers.

Memorial service at the Wreck Room in Sacramento at 1500 for Mr. Sacramento Leather Randy Gray, followed by a benefit auction of items from Randy's estate.

Sunday, Feb. 6: Seattle Mr. Leather Contest at Neighbors (1509 Broadway) in Seattle. \$7. This is Seattle's biggest leather event, so if you're in the vicinity, it's the only place to go! ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER JANUARY 27, 1994

ton. Hangs until various mow!

Wednesday, Feb. 2:
Leather Buddies play party at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2000-2300, party until ??? You must wear boots. No cologne. Act butch if it kills you. Leather is

Sweet Lips

Gearing Up for the Coronation

ell it's that time of year again when we go to when we go to all those candidates aspiring to become the Emperor and Empress. The following is a list of important bashes planned for Kimo's Penthouse. There are other parties, of course, but I didn't have the pertinent information at my deadline. Thursday, February 3 at 8:30 p.m. join the "Chuck for Emperor" party; Friday the 4th at 9 p.m. swing by the "Susie" for Empress party; Saturday, the 5th join "Michel" at 9 p.m.; and on Friday the 11th at 9 p.m. drop by the "Mr. Leona" party. In my next column I will list all of the candidates who're running. Remember that on Saturday, the 12th of February, you can vote from 10 a.m. till 7 p.m. at Charpes Bar & Grille. Enter in the alley and, of course, Paul Ruehl will be in the front bar dispensing libations. Now, remember everybody, get out and VOTE!

EXCLUSIVE: Empress XV Darcelle will be here for the Coronation. This is the first one she's been to in all the parties of

the Coronation. This is the first one she's been to in many, many years. She'll be



Lance Cartwright, from Port land, and John Barnes, of Vancouver, Canada.

entering in the fabulous Mar-di Gras theme with a large contingent of Portlandites. Get

contingent of Portlandites. Get your tickets early, folks. Yes, readers, Dolly Dale is still holding court at the Polk-Rendezvous. Why don't you go visit with him, and while you're there, stroll next door to the Stardust Cafe and nibble away on some of their delicacies. This place serves a great breakfast every morning and flips juicy burgers all day.

day.
Saturday, the 29th, at 10:30
p.m. is Chuck Largent's Crazy
Amateur Hour at Charpes
Bar & Grille. The show (\$10

cover) features a special guest host. Don't miss it. This should be a hoot.

Also on the 29th is the 10th annual Miss ETVC Cotillion (7 p.m.) at the Russian Center at 2450 Sutter Street. A talent show, buffet dinner, evening gown competition and a post-show dance party are just a few of the treats planned. Tickets (\$20) are available at Kimo's and Mar-

lena's.

If none of the above grabs you, talented singer and pianist Larry O' Leno will perform at The Swallow on Polk St. at 9 p.m. also on the 29th (that's a busy night). If you've never heard this gracious performer, I suggest you head over to The Swallow and lend him an ear.

over to The Swallow and lend him an ear.

My next column (February 10th), will reveal complete tails on the upcoming Coronation. There are lots of fun things planned around this event, especially Lily's party for Portland on Saturday the 19th, so mark this date on your calendar.

Oh, and before I forget, happy belated birthday to Bert Farber, who is still kicking at his wonderful age. Right, Tommy Sherck? ▼

Tommy Sherck? ▼







UNTIL YOU'VE CHECKED US OUT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HOT S.F.'S J/O SCENE IS!



Three hot new film programs on 3 big screens in main auditorium, each program 3 hours, changed Sunday and Thursday. Main screen—3 features; 2nd—All Hot Jackoffs, Grand Prix and Halcyon film exclusives; 3rd—Classic Film Loops of the '60s-'70s. Plus J/O Room with monitor screens. Our J/O audience does its own live show every day! Adm. \$8. Circle J is HOT, CLEAN and SAFE!



Books

Impassioned Voices

Sojourner edited by B. Michael Harris; Other Countries; \$10.95

by Karl Bruce Knapper

"I want to live the rest of my life, however long or short, with as much sweetness as I can decently manage, loving all the people I love, and doing as much as I can of the work I still have to do. I am going to write fire until it comes out of my ears, my eyes, my noseholes — everywhere. Until it's every breath I breathe. I'm going to go out like a fucking meteor."

— Audre Lorde, A Burst of Light

raig G. Harris, the late "Afrofemeentric griot," uses Audre Lorde's brilliant — I'm going out like a fucking meteor — as the title for the last piece in Sojourn-er: Black Gay Voices in the Age of AIDS, a brilliant collection of poetry, essays, let-ters, prose and art work by black writers and artists from the U.S., Canada and Eng-

In short, Sojourner is one of the most powerful collec-tions of writings and art I've ever read about life in the medically and emotionally tu-multuous times we've learned to cope with over the past 13

to cope with over the past 13 years.

The book, produced by Other Countries: Black Gay Expression, the New York-based community artists' group, has provided an outlet of much-need expression for the rarely heard, but passionate, voices of the gay male African Diaspora, voices like Marlon Riggs, Assotto Saint, Melvin Dixon, Donald Woods, Craig Harris, David Frechette, Lyle Ashton Harris and others whose names may or may not be familiar, Mark Haile, Alan Miller, Marvin K. White, Reginald Jackson, Colin Robinson and many others in Robinson and many others

who deserve greater recognition.

Managing editor, B. Michael Hunter, describes So Michael Hunter, describes So-journer as a collective "search for ways to face the day after the wakes, funerals, the memorials of yet another friend-lover-family member. This is a journal about those who are HIV positive, have AIDS, are Black, Gay, HIV negative, surviving, or any combination of these and oth-er identities—those we claim

commation of these and other and those we claim and those we don't.

"This journal was to be a marker in this age of AIDS," writes Hunter. "These pages were to house memories, and assist in telling our stories and those of our predecessors. These pages were to remind both the Black community and the gay white community that Black faggots are infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. We do not get the attention of infects the many temperature of infects the second most fants born to infected mothers, we are not seen Broadway stages, nor are invited to address major political conventions. For the glar-ing absence of a Black gay face-voice-presence in the na tional consciousness, one could surmise we had somehow been spared this scourge. We haven't."

The writings in this collection spared to the scourge of the scourge of the scourge of the scott of the scourge of the scour

tion consist of poetry and fic-tion, non-fiction, first-person narratives, and information about HIV and black men, in addition to commentaries and advice about how to cope with HIV/AIDS. If nothing else, the book encourages the survival and empowerment of

black gay communities. Almost every major issue facing black gay men, and their struggle with AIDS, is broached in Sojourner—being HIV positive, or negative; coping with both the ambivalence and ambiguity of not lence and ambiguity of not knowing, or wanting to know, one's status; dealing with love, loss, regret, denial, self-hatred and self-love, internal-

ized and externalized racism ized and externalized racism and homophobia; romantic re-lationships between men of the same or different sero-sta-tuses; relationships with our families; and developing sup-port networks for black gay

men.
Other issues explored Other issues explored touch on the conspiracy of silence that exists around AIDS in the black gay and bisexual communities; the physical, psychological and emotional toll the disease has taken on our communities; safer sex and unsafe, easy practices; masand unsafe-sex practices; mas-turbation; romantic and pla-tonic relationships between black gay men; sex-positive and sex-negative attitudes; and even the complications that HIV/AIDS have brought

that HIVIAIDS have brought to the coming-out process. Jewelle Gomez, author of The Gilda Stories, adroitly summed up this collection by saying, "When we listen to saying, "When we listen to the litany of names of those we've lost to AIDS, to racist and homophobic violence, to and homophobic violence, to poverty, the temptation is to yield to despair. The voices in this book call us back from the edge of sorrow. They sing of the pain of loving in a world not favorable to their survival. They open up the sadness so we hear the echoes of despair and hope. The road of despair and hope. The road of despair and nope. The road to life these men are travelling is a new one, full of terror and science, and what they are discovering is humanity. The world of literature would not be complete without the brothers who speak here."

But the true significance of

But the true significance of Sojourner is expressed by editor B. Michael Hunter who says, "Many people will find themselves or someone they know within the lines of these pages. My brothers in Other Countries and I can take comfett in the the Insufages. Countries and I can take com-fort in that knowledge, as well as in knowing we have served our community well. Still, any satisfaction we might derive from this publication should encourage us further in telling the stories of those who will not see themselves, or a familiar face, in these or any other pages." ▼

Sports

inued from page 43)

Scuba Diving

Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.

Saga North, lesbian and gay ski club. Call for more information (415) 995-2772.

Soccer

San Francisco Spikes Men's Soccer. Practice Tues-days, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248. Women's Soccer. Call Golden Gate Women's Soccer

League Chair Jan Mullen at 753-0946.

Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League -S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of 14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. Winter pick-up ball on Sundays: Two games are played, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at noon, at Christopher Field — located

behind the west end of the Safeway parking lot off Dia-mond Heights Blvd. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510)436-7959 for information.

Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim ub — call Suzanne at 431-

Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994. TSF supplies members with the latest information coming out of New York, travel & housing, registration packets for all sports, and a uniform for Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and funds to help you get there. Members recieve a quarterly newsletter and monthly calendars. To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118. Gay Games bound Team

Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.
Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley,

100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium.

Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056. Gay Volleyball. Every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490. Golden Gate Wrestling

Club. Practice Tuesdays evenings 7-9, Friday evenings 7-9, and Sundays 12:30-3 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women wel-come. Call Gene at 821-2991, or Dave Wagner at 558-8412. Bay Area Wrestling Newsline at 227-5802.

Note: your sports group can be listed here: Send Sports Guide the name of your group, a brief description, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person for the group. B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF CA 94103. ▼



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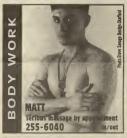
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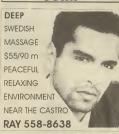
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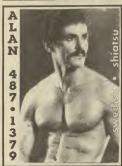


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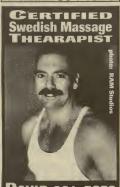
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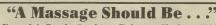
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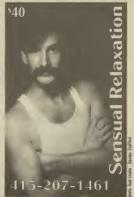
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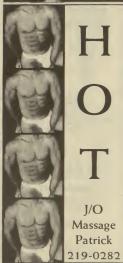
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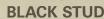
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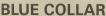
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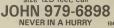
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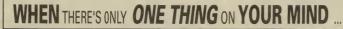
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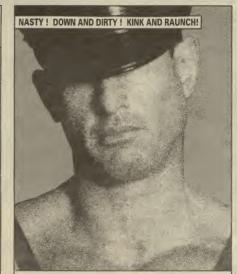
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